

THE CHERRY TREE



The Cherry Tree

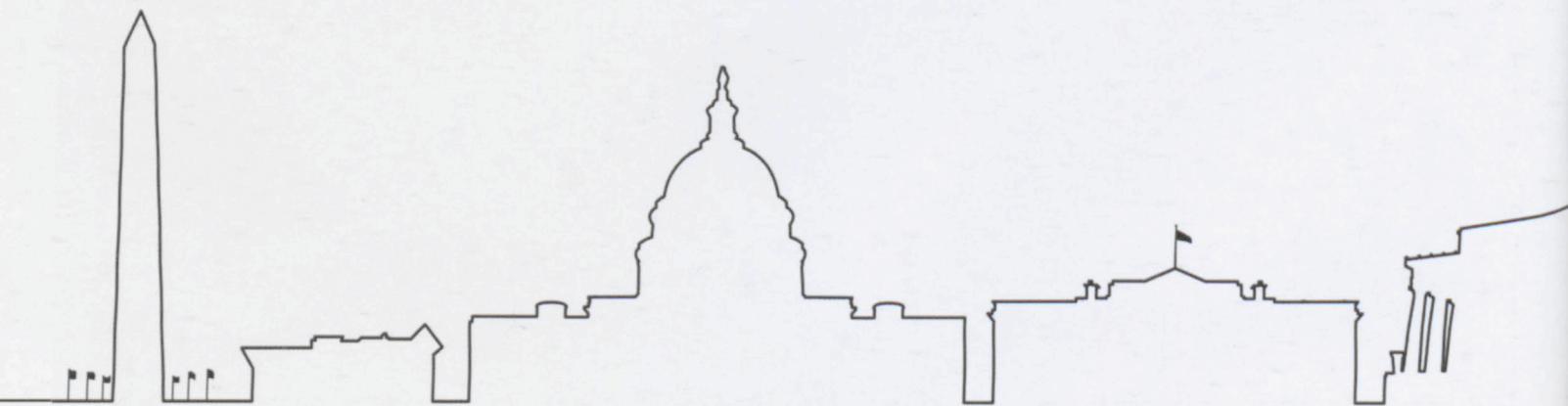
104th Edition



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character



Character is not an easy trait to define. It is what makes us unique, distinctive and special. It is what grounds us in a world filled with hyperbole and what unites us through shared experiences and history. This book is meant to capture the character of GW by exploring the interesting, dazzling and distinguishing people who make this school extraordinary. May this book serve to preserve the GW character in us all by keeping fresh the memories created during our collegiate years in a city unlike any other. Congratulations to the Characters of 2012. May you go forth in health, happiness and humility.

You came to the George Washington University from across the country and around the globe. For the past few years your home has been here in the nation's capital, on the frontlines of history. Today, nearly 7,000 of you are gathered in this spectacular setting on the National Mall – the only graduates in the world with this unique privilege. What could be more fitting than to celebrate your Commencement against the backdrop of the majestic Washington Monument, in alignment with the U.S. Capitol and the World War II and Lincoln memorials?

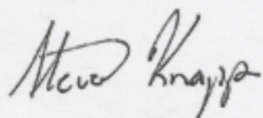
You believe that one person can make a difference. That passion for service has been evident in your efforts throughout the District of Columbia, across the United States, and around the world. You embarked on service-learning experiences that connected the classroom with the community, alternative winter and spring break trips that addressed important needs at home and abroad, and service events that unified the George Washington community. In so doing, you helped George Washington maintain its distinction as one of the most service-oriented universities in this country.

You exemplify how academic scholarship can – and must – intersect with important real-world problems. Your learning experiences were rigorous and relevant, and your education will allow you to make your mark on the world, whether in policy, in research, or in practice.

I have been impressed by your intellect and drive, and by your deep interest in important problems and your dedication to solving them. You are academically talented, politically savvy, articulate, thoughtful, and well informed. You have learned from some of the best minds in America and interacted with leaders whose decisions affect all our lives. You are now prepared to join the ranks of those who make a difference in the world.

Today, I welcome you into the lifelong and worldwide community of George Washington alumni. Now numbering 250,000, it is an exceptional community of distinguished leaders. It includes scientists, teachers, entrepreneurs, health care providers, artists, lawyers, ambassadors, and members of the United States Congress. I know that, as the newest members of this community, you will lead lives rich in meaning and powerful in contributions to your families, your communities, your nations, and the world.

Congratulations and best wishes to you all!



Steven Knapp
George Washington University President









FORCE







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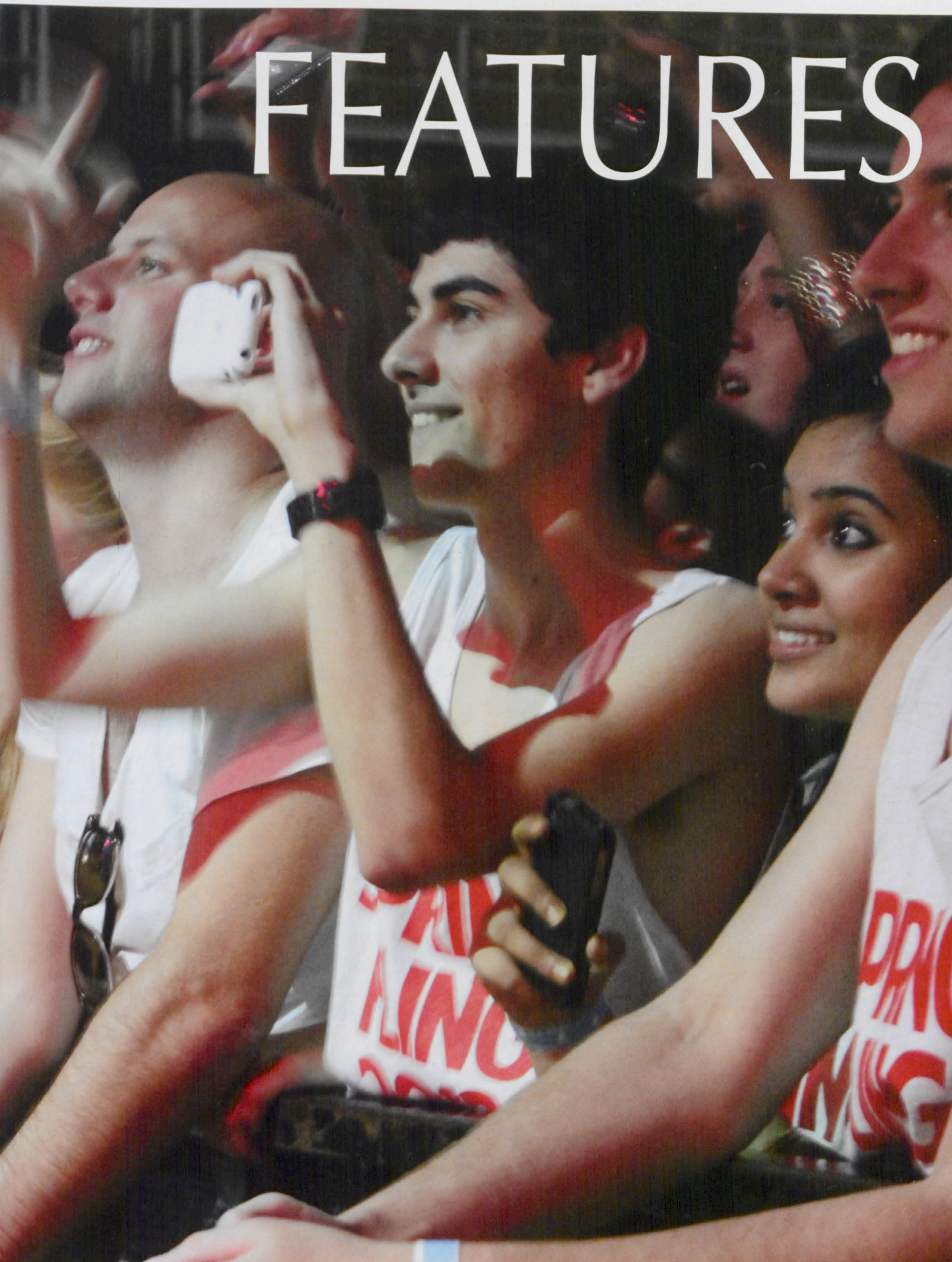
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FEATURES



Feed the Animals

Thousands of students gathered
in University Yard to see Girl Talk

Students flocked to University Yard on the humid Sunday night before Labor Day to celebrate Fall Fest and the start of the new semester. Popular mash-up artist Girl Talk headlined the '80s themed event presented by Program Board, while Philadelphia-based hip-hop group Moosh & Twist opened the show.

Thousands of students, many dressed in '80s inspired clothing, anxiously awaited the arrival of Gregg Michael Gillis, better known as Girl Talk. By the time he took the stage around 8:30 p.m., the front half of U-Yard was virtually impenetrable as students squeezed as close to the stage as possible.

A combination of classic pop and hip-hop tracks blended together and blasted from the speakers, undoubtedly audible from blocks away. Girl Talk irrefutably replicated a rave-like experience with the perpetual use of strobe lights diffused through the sweaty crowd, which was already peppered with balloons and confetti.

In addition, 20 lucky students were selected to dance on stage with Girl Talk throughout the duration of the performance.

"We had to keep dancing the entire time," sophomore Emily Manning said. "He was right there in front of us. It was so intense to see him mix everything. Next year's Fall Fest has a lot to live up to."

The energy and excitement lingered in University Yard as the crowd began to disperse after Girl Talk's encore performance. Despite the fairly blasé attitude that has usually approached the arrival of Fall Fest, most students left U-Yard in awe of the concert they had just experienced.





The bar was set very high with this year's Fall Fest. Girl Talk was the best performance of my four years at GW.
Alex Kaplan '12



Back To The Future

Alumni gathered for a fun-filled weekend at their Alma Mater

At Alumni Weekend, there was no shortage of events for the thousands of alumni, friends and family who wished to return to campus and relive a little bit of their own undergraduate experience. Sept. 16 marked the start of an exceptionally busy weekend for D.C., especially with discounts offered to GW alumni at hotels throughout the city ranging from the Washington Marriot to the Fairmont.

Alumni from the undergraduate classes of 1961, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006 had their own special class reunions and were welcomed to participate in any of the over 60-plus highlighted events.

The weekend's festivities officially began with the All-Alumni Kickoff concert at University Yard on Friday, which included performances by Grammy-nominated multicultural American funk and soul group Robert Randolph and the Family Band, as well as Grammy-nominated guitarist and singer Chuck Brown, affectionately known as "The Godfather of Go-Go."

Held on Friday evening was the President's Open House during which President Steven Knapp and his wife, Dianne, invited alumni to visit with them at their home, the historic F Street House.

The "Back to Thurston!" open house, a favorite annual event among alumni, was held on Saturday morning. Alumni lucky enough to have lived in GW's most notorious dorm revisited their freshman living arrangements with student-led tours. Many alumni got a double dose of déjà vu, visiting the rooms they lived in during their freshman year at GW.

Reunion celebrations continued Saturday night and coincided with a special '80s celebration for all alumni who graduated that decade. The '80s themed bash was held in Duques Hall, where glass walls and marble floors were accented with pink and orange neon lights and the tables were decorated with disco balls and hot lava lamps. Staff also handed out glow stick necklaces and "shutter shades," while many alumni took pictures with a DeLorean DMC-12, the iconic car of the 1985 film *Back to the Future*.

On the Sunday morning before the close of the weekend, all former Student Association Presidents were invited to a special breakfast with President Knapp. A smattering of various events followed, including a Sunday Political Brunch and the Columbian Women Scholarship Brunch.



The food was delicious. Nothing like crab cake burgers and Ben's chili dogs to start Alumni Weekend. The Chuck Brown concert was very entertaining. It was great for everyone to be 'bustin loose' at the concert.
Emmanuel Caudillo, CCAS MPP '08

Students Serve & Mourn

10 years later students, faculty and staff gathered in University Yard for the 9/11 Commemoration

Given the hyperbolic sense of service and remembrance on campus for September 11, it turned out to be somewhat of a happy accident that the Freshman Day of Service and Freshman Convocation were postponed to its 10th anniversary due to Hurricane Irene.

The day's events began with Freshman Convocation at noon, which was followed by the Freshman Day of Service opening ceremony. The Charles E. Smith Center was awash in blue with 2,300 freshmen wearing their service t-shirts. The two events blended together with little separation and included notable speakers like President Steven Knapp, Provost Steven Lerman, Chancellor of D.C. Public Schools Kaya Henderson and President Obama's Faith Advisor Eboo Patel.

"You have the equivalent of winning the lottery, make today the first day in a life-long habit of service," Lerman stated before the conclusion of Freshman Convocation.

The Freshman Day of Service began with the class of 2013 when Michelle Obama challenged the University to complete 100,000 hours of community service within the academic year, and in return she would speak at the University's Commencement for the class of 2010. Roughly 1,500 students participated in the event that year and by the May 1 deadline, the University surpassed the goal, completing over 160,000 hours of community service.

In the past two years the Freshman Day of Service has validated itself to people who thought of it as simply a challenge intended to obtain an important commencement speaker. "Three years have nearly doubled the level of participation," Knapp said.

Throughout the afternoon and early evening, students spread out all over the city – as well as Virginia and Maryland – and worked mostly at local public schools in 16 locations, including the schools of six victims of the 9/11 attacks. After returning from their long day of service, freshmen walked in a procession from the Smith Center to University Yard where the 9/11 vigil took place. More than 500 students, faculty and staff flooded University Yard from all sides, gathering candles upon entering.

The vigil began at around 7 p.m. at which time President Knapp gave the opening remarks. "On that day our university community lost nine alumni, and we have never ceased to mourn them in the 10 years that have elapsed," he said.

Veteran and GW Senior, Joe Mancinik, expressed his apprehension about returning to university after having served abroad in the armed forces in the wake of 9/11. Despite his initial trepidation, Mancinik said that he found the GW undergraduate population to be surprisingly mature.

As the vigil neared its end, Student Association President John Richardson read the names of the nine alumni who died 10 years ago: Sarah M. Clark, Andrew K. Friedman, Melissa M. Harrington



Hughes, Robert F. Mace, John P. O'Neill, Todd H. Reuben, John Sammartino, James T. Waters, Jr. and Andrew Stergiopoulos.

After each name was read a candle was lit in remembrance, and each of the nine candles was then shared among the crowd until hundreds of candles were lit. The crowd stood in reflection with their flickering candles for a few minutes, many desperately trying to ensure that their candles remained lit in the breezy air. A somber exodus from University Yard ensued at the conclusion of the vigil.



Be a part of the conversation, but more importantly be a part of the action. Don't forget, people who talk for a living talk about the people who act. I envy you, you are at the doorstep of possibility.

Eboo Patel, Faith Advisor to President Obama

STREET EATS

GW students indulged in nationwide fad

The concept of the food truck manifested itself in the minds of GW students two years ago when their presence emerged on the busiest street on campus. A single food truck parked outside J Street was treated like a major event, with lines spanning the distance between the Marvin Center and Phillips Hall. Soon, the once rare phenomenon developed into a daily occurrence with a large variety of food trucks available to students.

It was not surprising to find upwards of three or four trucks on H Street every weekday around lunchtime. A particularly noticeable presence on campus this fall was the Tasty Kabob truck, serving Middle Eastern and Mediterranean food in an environmentally friendly vehicle. Other food truck favorites among GW students included Red Hook Lobster Pound, which brought landlocked D.C. students a taste of Maine. Basil Thyme served fresh, made-from-scratch pasta and lasagna. While Dangerously Delicious Pies, noted for being all red with a pie and cross bones logo, served sweet and savory pies in addition to quiches.

On Oct. 14 GW students indulged their food truck obsession at the largest food truck event in GW history. Student radio station WRGW presented a Truck-A-Palooza, which featured over 20 D.C. Food Truck Association food trucks including the BBQ Bus, Orange Cow, Curbside Cupcakes, D.C. Empanadas, and many more. The event was held on H Street just across from University Yard. Despite the heavy rain all morning, a surprising amount of students congregated around H Street from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. With the constantly fluctuating lines in between classes it became clear that food trucks were likely to stick around on campus for years to come.



FOJOL BROS

Serving dishes such as buttered chicken, eggplant, cabbage and chickpeas, and split peas, the Fojol Brothers stood out from the crowd.



THE ORANGE COW

Famous for its homemade ice cream, servings came in small or large, as well as sundaes and pints to go.



CAPMAC

With a menu including Mac n' Cheese topped with a Cheez-It garnish, the Cap Mac truck was a welcomed sight on GW's campus.



THE CHEESECAKE TRUCK

This bakery on wheels served four regular flavors and two weekly wild card slices.



BIG CHEESE

With both a large selection of meals including classic grilled cheese, as well as an extensive list of sides, this truck had something to offer for every student.

"The Big Cheese truck was my favorite...I ate more food from here in a week than I cooked in my kitchen."

Jordyn Gotlieb '12



Homecoming

Thousands of GW families came by planes, trains and automobiles into Washington, D.C. to rejoin their children for Colonials Weekend. Beginning on the afternoon of Friday, Oct. 14, guests were greeted with warm fall weather after a week dominated by rain and midterms.

At Colonials Invasion on Friday night, students and parents displayed their school spirit and proudly celebrated the official start of the GW basketball season. Afterwards, many families attended Acapellapalooza at 9 p.m. in the Marvin Center Amphitheater. The annual charity concert was sponsored by the GW Troubadours and featured all of GW's a capella groups including The Troubadours, The Vibes, The Pitches, The Sirens, Shir Madness, The Voice Gospel Choir, Sons of Pitch and

Emocapella. Proceeds from the event benefited Miriam's Kitchen, a non-profit organization that provided homemade meals and support services to over 4,000 homeless men and women in the D.C. area each year.

On Saturday morning, GW families were officially welcomed at Lisner Auditorium. President Steven Knapp was joined on stage by Student Association President John Richardson and Michael Weir, the President of the Parents' Association Advisory Council. In welcoming GW parents, Knapp also took some time to inform visitors about major University events and discussed the significance of this year's Freshman Day of Service and the importance of service within the GW community. "What really matters is not just the experience we provide of having a front-



Colonials Weekend relieved the stress of many students after a hectic week of midterms

row seat to the theater of history, but that there are opportunities to engage in the community," Knapp said.

Later in the day, students introduced their parents to the Mount Vernon Campus and attended Oktoberfest, sponsored by the Mount Vernon Programming Council. The event, held at the Mount Vernon Campus Quad, offered GW families their first taste of the Halloween season. The quad was decorated with dozens of pumpkins and seasonal decorations and included festive fall desserts, Halloween-inspired games and arts and crafts activities.

Back on the Foggy Bottom Campus, juniors and seniors were invited to a Senior-Junior Barbecue at Kogan Plaza hosted by the Senior Class Gift Campaign. Juniors, seniors and their families mingled with each other and enjoyed complimentary food before

tackling the crowd outside the Smith Center waiting to see Bill Maher perform.

After an overwhelmingly eventful weekend, parents and students returned to the Mount Vernon Campus on Sunday morning for one more meal before saying goodbye to each other. In the Pelham Commons, families indulged in an all-you-can-eat brunch.

This year's Colonials Weekend offered something for every type of GW family and marked the perfect end to a rainy and stressful week of midterms. The plethora of exciting events no doubt left students and parents revived after a difficult month-and-a-half apart.

BILL MAHER

crazy talk

Despite the comedian's somewhat polarizing reputation, the highlight of Colonials Weekend was headliner Bill Maher's comedy show that left many students and their families shocked.

The event was supposed to begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15, but at that time there was still an immense crowd waiting to gain admission into the Smith Center. Students and families flooded into the streets while being directed by police officers and Smith Center staff. The crowd dispersed relatively quickly and Bill Maher took the stage at 7:30 p.m., faced with a sold-out and eager audience.

Maher was casually dressed in a pair of blue jeans and a red t-shirt with the phrase "mutts rule." Maher opened with several jabs about the 2012 GOP presidential candidates. "If he was any slimier, you could kill him with salt," he said referring to Governor Mitt Romney. With regards to the seeming indecisiveness of the Republicans, Maher said, "They went to Michelle Bachman for people who found Sarah Palin to be too intellectual." Maher even

referenced GW's namesake in one of his attacks on the political right, many of whom he said love George Washington. "A little known fact, George Washington wasn't into NASCAR," he said.

Following Maher's perpetual swipes at the Republicans, later he sarcastically stated, "I hope I look like I've been bi-partisan tonight."

Nothing was safe from Maher's cynicism, from right-wing politics to religion, and even the Democrats. "D is for Democrats, because they're always disappointing," he joked.

Not even the audience was safe as Maher mocked both of the sign-language interpreters and the handful of Republicans in the audience, who raised their hands after his prompting. Maher's jeering may have been too much for some audience members as a few families left before the show was over.

Nonetheless, most students and families seemed to have enjoyed the show, given the standing ovation as Maher left the stage.





MLK

Obama and nation
honored the civil
rights leader with a
national monument

The newest monument that graced the National Mall in 2011 was the long awaited Martin Luther King Memorial. The memorial officially opened to the public in late August with a dedication ceremony scheduled for Aug. 28, the 48th anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s iconic "I have a dream" speech. Unfortunately, Hurricane Irene forced the ceremony to be postponed until Sunday, Oct. 16, which coincided with the 16th anniversary of the Million Man March that took place in 1995. However, the delay did not seem to dull the spirits of thousands of spectators who assembled on the National Mall on Sunday to celebrate the memory of Dr. King. The event included seating for up to 10,000 guests, but that space was



quickly filled with only standing room available for the thousands of other attendees. The presence of the Secret Service was also highly visible in anticipation of the President's speech. The multiethnic congregation was not only evocative of the 1963 March on Washington, but also incarnated the message of racial equality in Dr. King's historical speech.

Dr. King's legacy was celebrated by the many notable guest speakers and performers, including President Barack Obama, District Mayor Vincent Gray, former CBS anchor Dan Rather, the Rev. Al Sharpton, and Dr. King's daughter, Bernice King. Performers included folk artists James Taylor and Sheryl Crow. Aretha Franklin was also present in

the crowd but did not perform at the event. During the ceremony's finale, Taylor performed his breakthrough single "Fire and Rain."

The memorial itself is located at the northwest corner of the Tidal Basin near the FDR memorial and features four large pieces of white granite. The centerpiece is a 30-foot high relief of Dr. King titled the "Stone of Hope." Standing behind it is two other stone pieces symbolizing the "Mountain of Despair." The inspiration for this aspect of the memorial comes from the line in Dr. King's famous speech, "Out of a mountain of despair, a stone of hope." The memorial also features a 450-foot long wall inscribed with excerpts from many of Dr. King's other speeches.

ENTER IF
YOU DARE



Halloween

Halloween may have fallen on a Monday, but Halloween weekend was the holiday's main event

The weather changed just in time this year for students to get themselves into the Halloween spirit. The stubborn balmy weather following the end of summer finally gave way to brisk fall weather as Halloween weekend approached. The first event of the weekend, Oktoberfest, was held on Saturday afternoon and was presented by the German Club and Program Board. The event was held in Anniversary Park and pushed on enthusiastically despite the fairly heavy rain. Considering the weather, there was quite a large number of students eager to warm up with traditional food imported from Germany and beer available to all students over the age of 21. The food, beer and traditional music all contributed to a uniquely German

atmosphere on GW's campus in the middle of D.C.

Later that night, many upperclassmen chose to take part in the Georgetown bar crawl. A favorite event among GW upperclassmen, the college-aged crowd ran up and down M Street in their Halloween costumes. GW students were able to mingle with other students in the D.C. area into the early hours of Sunday morning.

Just because Halloween fell on a Monday, it did not stop many students from reveling in the Halloween atmosphere all over campus. It was not uncommon to see some students walking around campus in their Halloween costumes, or even attending class in costume. The most popular costume this year for both men and women was Waldo, from the popular children's book series, *Where's Waldo?* On Halloween night, many students undoubtedly chose to opt out of the typical festivities and instead studied for their upcoming midterms with a horror movie in the background and candy on hand.



I've participated in the Embassy Row Trick or Treating all four years I've been at GW. It is always the perfect way to celebrate Halloween in D.C.

Huston Harris '12

Exploring the Town

Three of our favorite neighborhoods

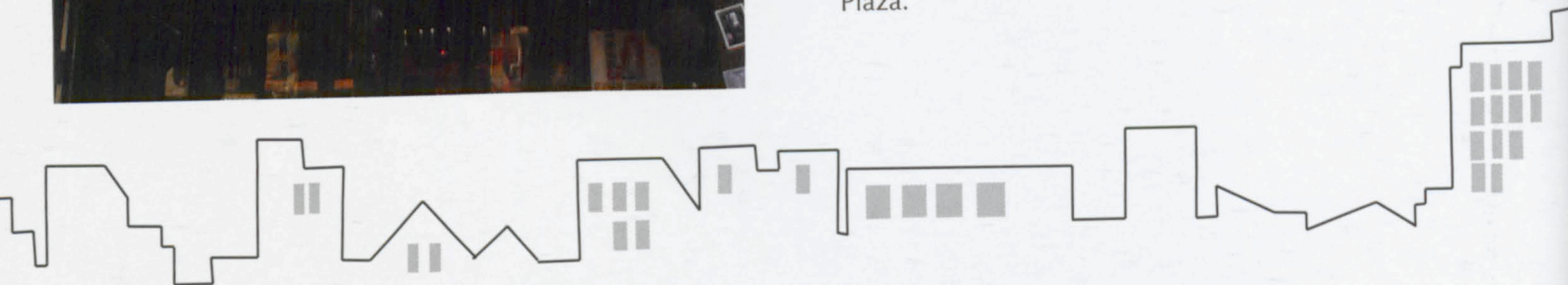
■ Story & Photos | Jordyn Gottlieb

Our four years in D.C. have been witness to the beginnings of a city-wide cultural renaissance, from the development of new neighborhoods and the renovations of old, to a city budding with culinary celebrities and home to over 100 food trucks and cupcakeries. As DCists we can proudly say that no longer is our city known as simply a political culture - although a suit and backpack is still the most common outfit at any venue.



Adams Morgan

Those giant breasts on the side of Madams Organ, which represent the eternal up-and-coming neighborhood, remind us of late nights at Jumbo Slice, Amsterdam Falafel and the mobs of diverse people flooding the sidewalks every weekend. They also remind us that there was almost nowhere to get 24-hour food apart from The Diner, nowhere better to find a group of post-formal partiers than at Brass Monkey and played a strong argument for why one should have or attend a birthday dinner at Lauriol Plaza.





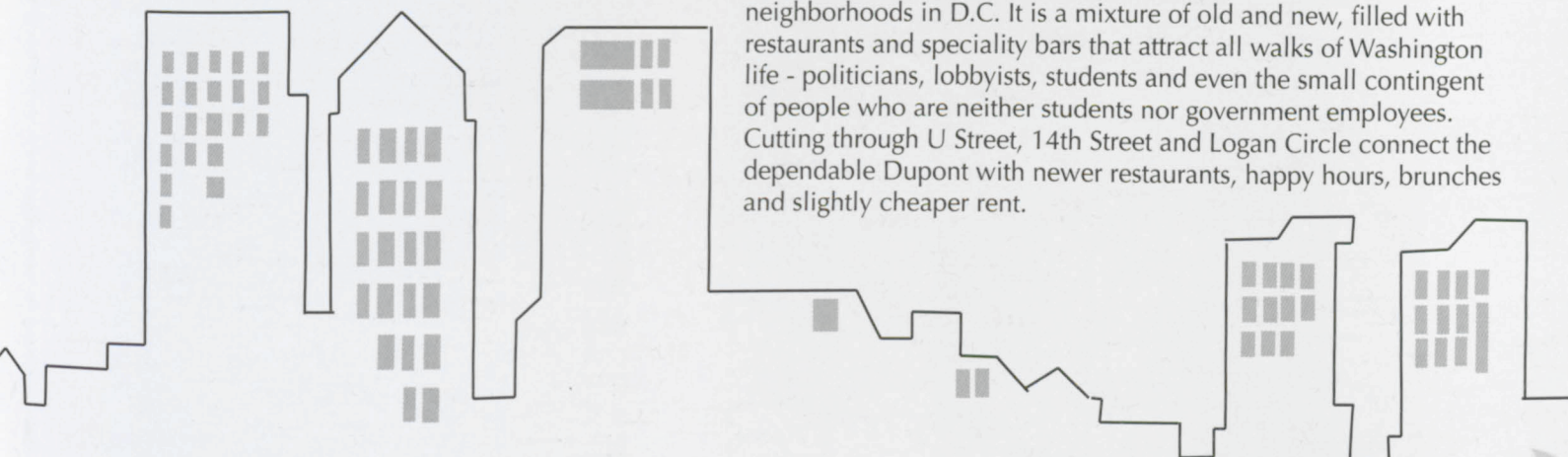
Dupont

D.C.'s most well-known, young and happening area has not lost its reputation in the past 30 years. The endless nights and happy hours around 18th and M that will forever remain foggy in our memories may have mostly been due to the fact that 4-RIDE could not drive us any farther, but Dupont has carved a special place in the hearts of Washington students with the annual Halloween Drag Race, Gay Pride Parade and Dupont Farmers Market.



U Street

Famous to non-Washingtonians for its jazz clubs and Ben's Chili Bowl, U Street has come to be one of the coolest, most eclectic neighborhoods in D.C. It is a mixture of old and new, filled with restaurants and speciality bars that attract all walks of Washington life - politicians, lobbyists, students and even the small contingent of people who are neither students nor government employees. Cutting through U Street, 14th Street and Logan Circle connect the dependable Dupont with newer restaurants, happy hours, brunches and slightly cheaper rent.



In a Land Far, Far Away...

Learning beyond the borders of GW

■ Story | Hyacinth Mascarenhas

Studying abroad was a unique educational opportunity for GW students to travel while still earning academic credit. With over 25 exchange partners, 300 study abroad programs and four study centers, GW students engaged in cultures, people and classes beyond the borders of D.C. Those who studied abroad came back enriched with a new perspective, great memories and valuable life lessons.

Sarah Barrie, Junior
Major in Human Services; minor in
Psychology
University of Westminster; London, UK

What was the best part about traveling to London?

I had such a great time in London! I did so much traveling; it was hard to believe! It was chaotic and stressful at times, but I wouldn't change it for the world. Being able to go to Rome one weekend and Dublin the next was the coolest experience. I saw parts of the world that others only dream of visiting. I am also in love with London and plan to move here after I graduate.

Would you recommend studying abroad to other GW students?

I would definitely recommend studying abroad to other students. It was the absolute best experience that I've ever had. I learned so much, not only in the classroom, and I experienced things that you can't experience in D.C. It gives you a chance to spend some time away from GW and really appreciate foreign cultures.

What will you take away from this experience?

Even though I was not in a country that speaks a language other than English, the culture was so different in London than it was in America. I made so many new friends and learned more than I could have ever imagined. It was a phenomenal experience!



Adam Antony Gardy, Junior Major in Public Health IES Abroad; Rome, Italy

What made you decide to study abroad in Italy?

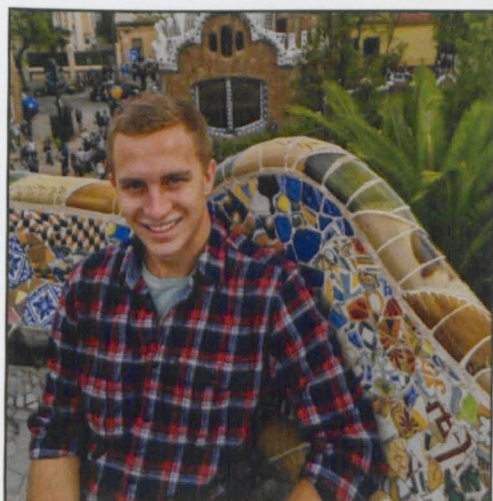
I chose to study in Italy because I had taken two semesters of Italian at GW. I specifically selected Rome because it's such an amazing city filled with some of the most impressive artwork and monuments in the world. I wanted to get a chance to experience living in that kind of environment. Also, I knew I wanted to be in Europe because it would be so easy to travel to other countries.

What was the most difficult part of studying abroad?

The most difficult part was adjusting to a new culture and missing home. I thought that Europe wouldn't be that much different, but Italy felt like a whole other world. There were language barriers and the country operated on a whole different system. I also really missed Chipotle and gyms and other things that I took for granted like home cooked meals and my own bed.

What sets this opportunity apart from any other college experience?

I got to see the world from a completely different perspective. I saw all the sites of Rome and learned so much. I visited Budapest, London, Barcelona and Copenhagen, just to name a few. I really experienced some amazing things and I have a lot of good memories that I'll take away from my time abroad.



Shaili Patel, Senior Major in Business Administration Shanghai, China

What was the most challenging aspect of studying abroad in China?

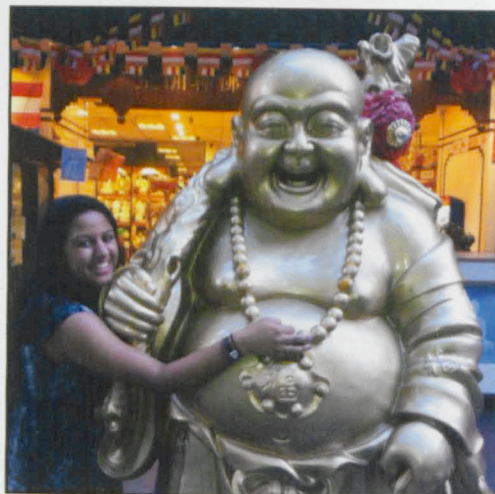
The most difficult part of studying abroad was moving away from the American mindset and adjusting to the Chinese one. For example, if you didn't show up to class or were running late, it was very likely that your Chinese teacher would call you and ask if you were coming. In addition, in my Chinese professor taught lecture-based courses; there was almost no discussion. It was interesting to see the different teaching styles, but a little difficult to adapt.

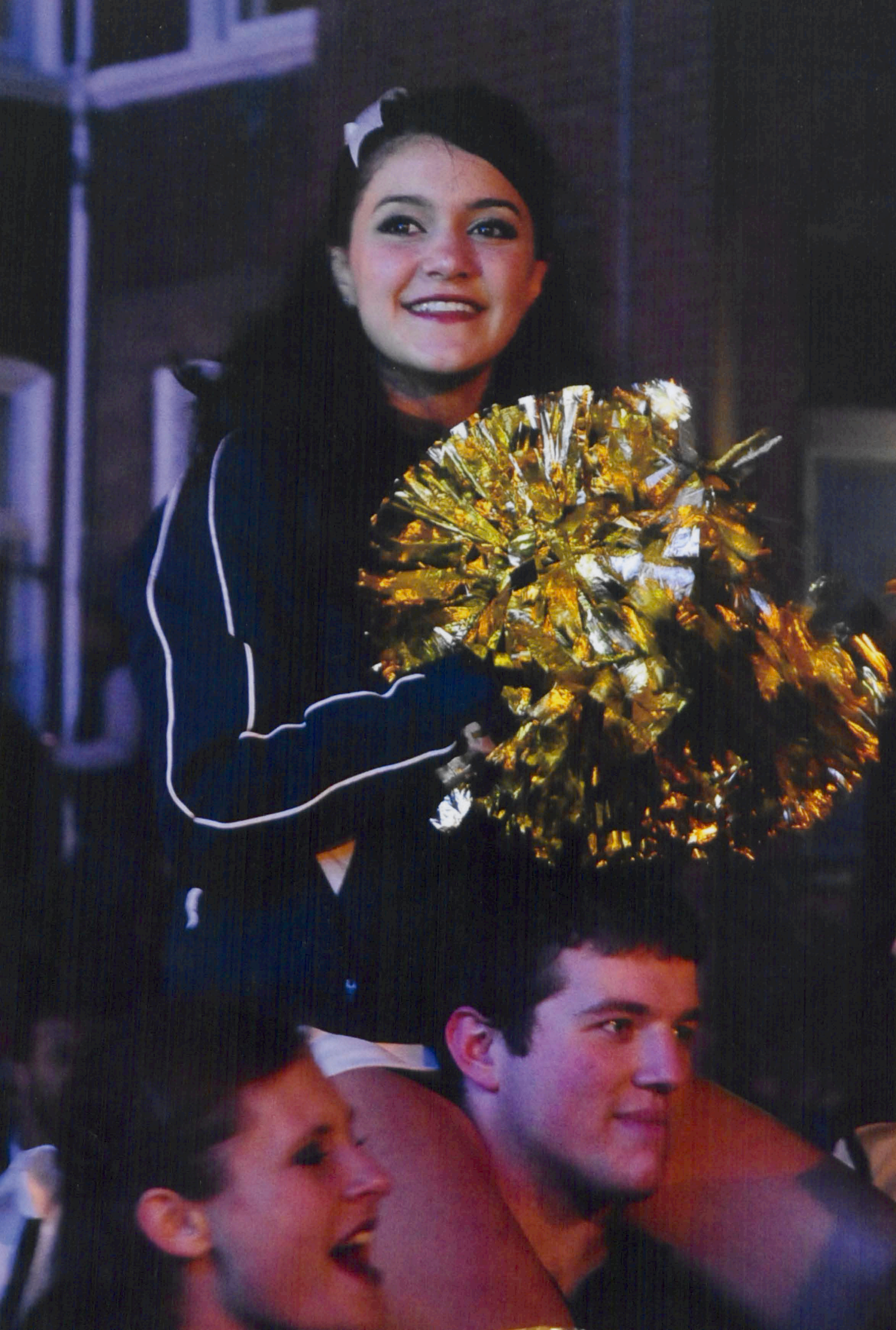
What is the most fascinating lesson you've learnt abroad?

Before coming to China I could not even imagine living abroad, but now I want to move to Shanghai! The cultural aspects and relationships I built there were priceless. Just observing street vendors outside the gates of the university or Chinese customs sparked a different type of curiosity in me.

How has this study abroad opportunity changed you?

I became a totally different person because of this experience, and I would greatly encourage everyone to study abroad at least for one semester. In this program, we got some time off for a Chinese holiday and I went backpacking through four different countries, which was an unbelievable experience that I would never imagine doing if I was back in America. Studying abroad taught me how to adapt to my surroundings and to get the most out of every experience!







BUFF & BLUE AFTERNOON

Students rallied outside the Smith Center at a uniquely GW tailgate party

On Friday, Nov. 11, the Colonial Army shut down 22nd street between G and F streets in order to celebrate the GW Men's Basketball home opener game against the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The student fan group hosted a tailgate from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. before the game with the help of the Student Association, Program Board, Residence Hall Association, Class Council and the Senior Class Gift Campaign. GW students, alumni, staff, faculty and Foggy Bottom neighbors were all invited to the event.

Despite the small crowd, there was no shortage of school spirit. The street was buzzing for the duration of the tailgate, with a packed lineup of performances and a myriad of activities for students. Performers included GW Bhangra and GW Raas, whose lively Indian folk dances helped to highlight GW's diverse undergraduate population. The Voice Gospel Choir's performance cast a reflective mood over the crowd in between spirited activities, such as face painting and poster making.

A tailgate would be nothing without food. Free hotdogs and hamburgers, grilled by GW's very own Hippo Grillmasters, were offered throughout the evening for a line of hungry supporters of the Colonials.

Students, alumni and neighbors of all ages took pictures with GW's mascot, Big George, casting a true sense of community over the event. The brisk fall weather, along with the free food and exciting performances made for the perfect tailgate environment. The high spirits continued until after the game, in which the Colonials defeated the UMES Hawks 64-48.

NIGHTLIFE GUIDE

Buddah Bar

For The Trendy Student

Located at 455 Massachusetts Avenue near Mt. Vernon Square, Buddha Bar was the hotspot for students over 21. The restaurant/bar featured a somewhat perplexing Asian-French fusion menu with main courses like lemongrass-crusted mahi-mahi with yellow coconut and five-spice BBQ organic chicken. However, though quite good, the food was not the main draw for students. The often off-putting crowd could be forgiven because, aesthetically, the setting was the perfect place to

have a couple of drinks on a Friday night before heading to a club or other venue. There was a sense of luxury in the room achieved by the red color scheme, of which the highlights were floor to ceiling red velvet curtains and red oriental booths flanking the walls. Overall, Buddha Bar definitely felt far from Foggy Bottom and even D.C. If you were looking to escape for the first hour or two of your Friday night, then Buddha Bar was appropriate.

Napoleon

For the Renaissance Student

Right on Columbia Road in Adam's Morgan, Napoleon falls somewhere in between upscale and casual. The impressively authentic French café served an excellent brunch for students looking for an alternative to Founding Farmers. However, on weekend nights students headed downstairs to a somewhat secretive feeling lounge dubbed Le Metropolitan where the French appeal continued. Exposed brick walls contrasted with Versailles-inspired wall panels and textiles highlighted the

underground elegance of the venue's champagne bar that featured live DJ's on the weekends playing music mostly from the top 40 charts. Wallflowers were always rare because the small space combined with the loud music forced students and other club-goers to dance until the bars closing time at 3 a.m. If you craved anonymity and expected subdued grandeur on a Friday night, then you should have been at Napoleon.

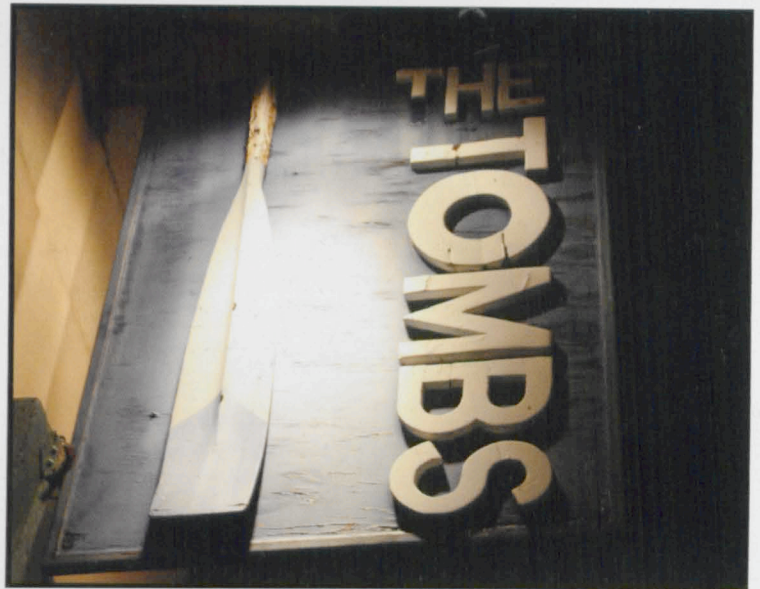
Rugby Bar

For the Preppy Student

Rugby Café on a weekend night was reminiscent of a costume party. Students wore their favorite argyle sweaters, pastel oxfords and critter pants in order to "blend in" at D.C.'s preppiest hang out in D.C.'s preppiest neighborhood. Thursday night was college night, when most students were seen conversing at tables with cocktails and a side of spinach and cheese dip, or relaxing on striped fabric couches with an orange crush in their hands.

Rugby was certainly not the place to go crazy; the environment did not allow it. With walls lined with wood paneling, upholstered armchairs, and tasseled lampshades throughout, Rugby exuded the cool sophistication of British boarding schools of the past. Undoubtedly, however, it was a great place for students to start their nights before fighting for a table at D.C.'s most popular bars and nightclubs.

For a variety of GW students, there were a variety of nightlife options to match.

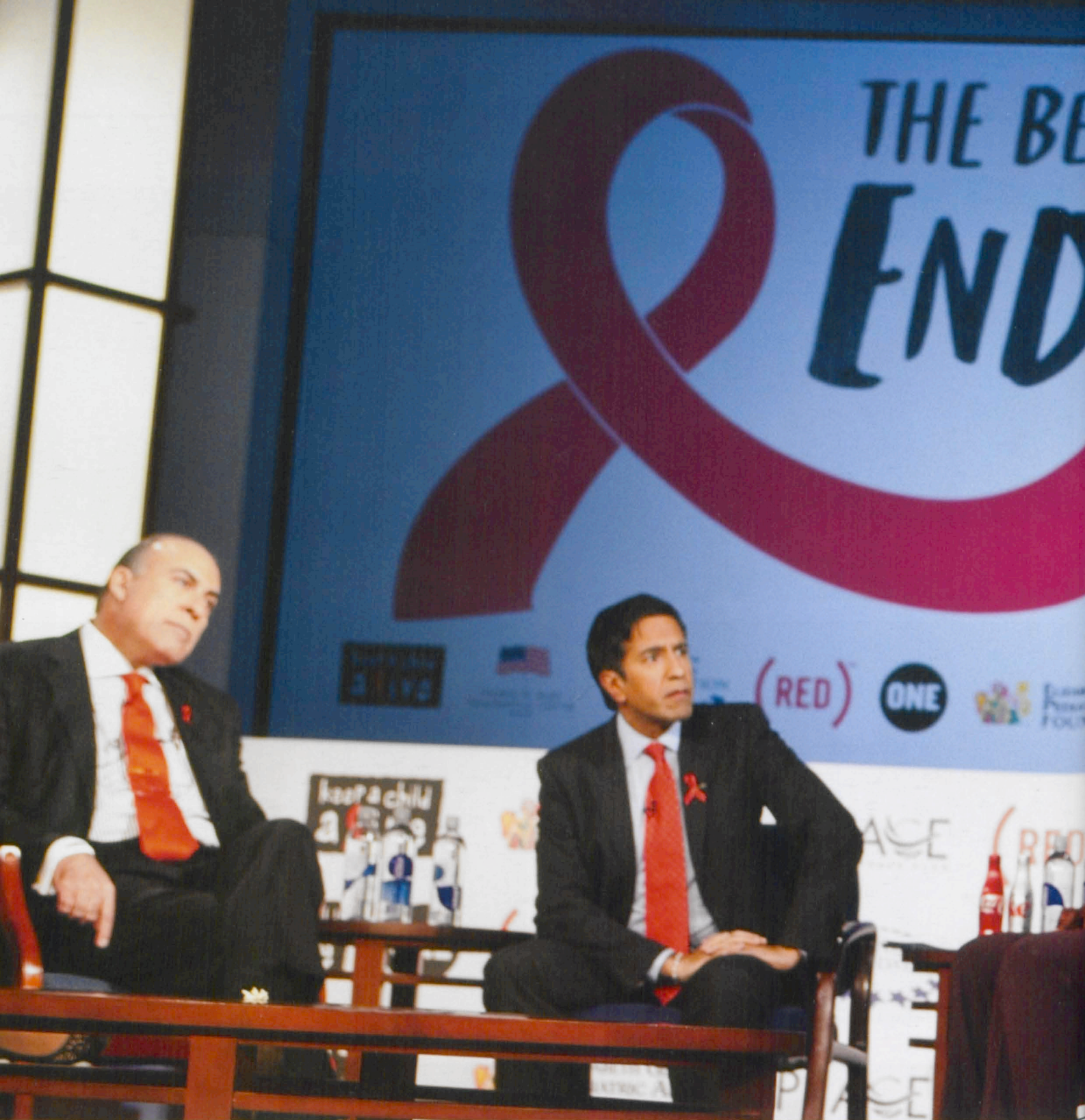


The Tombs

For the 'College' Student

Though located right near the entrance of Georgetown University, The Tombs was just as popular for the GW student looking for a more low-key night out sans transient 40-year-old Virginia and Maryland residents. The bar that allegedly inspired the film *St. Elmo's Fire*, telling the story of self-centered and ambitious Georgetown graduates, attracted the same type of GW student. However, this was not a bad thing because it gave the bar the quintessential college ambiance that only college students themselves have the privilege of experiencing authentically. Instead of the conversations about money and status that may have been overheard at the majority of D.C. nightclubs, students at The Tombs were more likely to vent their frustrations over

the difficulty of their philosophy classes on Sartre. Such intellectually pretentious students were definitely present, but there was also every type of college student present as well. The bar, being designed as a typical college sports bar, was also popular among student athletes and sports fans in general. On weekends it got quite loud either because of a heated football game or because of the throwback 1980's and top 40 music that caused the dance floor to become packed with a melting pot of students all looking for a night of stress-free fun. All in all, The Tombs reminded students of what it is that they loved about college and assured them that D.C. is in fact a college town despite the pressure to grow up.



A Stance Against AIDS

Reflection on the past and legislation for the future drew big names to GW on the 28th anniversary of World AIDS Day

Dec. 1, 2011 marked the 28th anniversary of World AIDS Day, and nowhere else in the world was reverence for the millions of victims of the disease displayed more prominently than in the Jack Morton Auditorium.

University President Steven Knapp was sure to address GW's position in the fight against HIV/AIDS in welcoming the event's speakers and attendees. "GW is proud to perform its role in the battle against HIV and AIDS, both globally and right here in the District of Columbia," he said.

President Obama was just one of the many prominent speakers that exemplified this fact. Despite the alienation that many "normal" people affected by the disease may have felt in a room full of such illustrious figures, Obama emphasized the sense of community in the face of AIDS. "Today we come



together as a global community across continents, across faiths and cultures, to renew our commitment to ending the AIDS pandemic once and for all," he said.

The event titled, "The Beginning of the End of AIDS," was not open to the public, but attendees lucky enough to be welcomed past the high security presence were met with a transformed Jack Morton Auditorium adorned with panels of the emblematic AIDS quilt featuring the images of many of those lost to the disease. Furthermore, it was difficult to spot a speaker or audience member who was not wearing red, whether it was the symbolic AIDS ribbon or a tie.

Following Obama's remarks was a panel discussion that was moderated by CNN's chief medical correspondent Sanjay Gupta and also featured Alicia Keys, Bono, Sen.

Marco Rubio, R-Fla., Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif., and numerous AIDS activists.

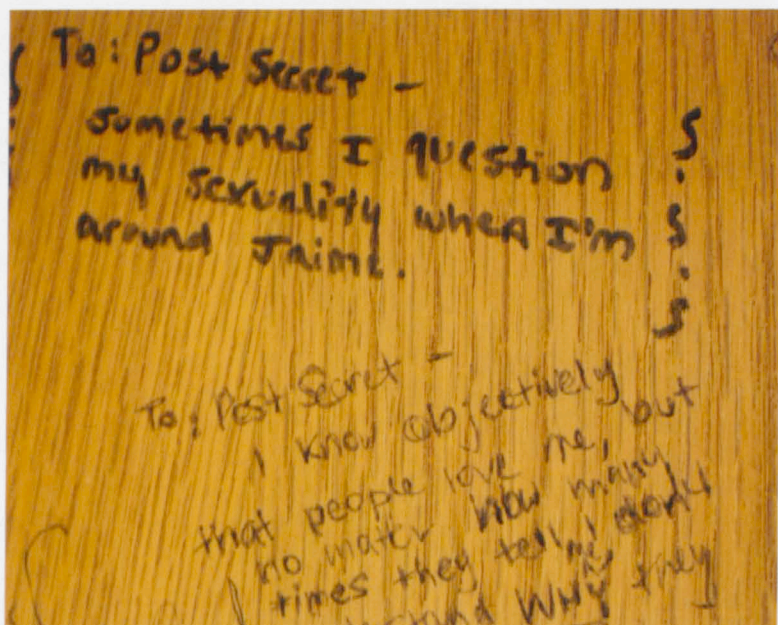
Adding to the list of big names were former Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton who joined the forum via satellite. Bush, who commented from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, described the location as "the frontline of the battle."

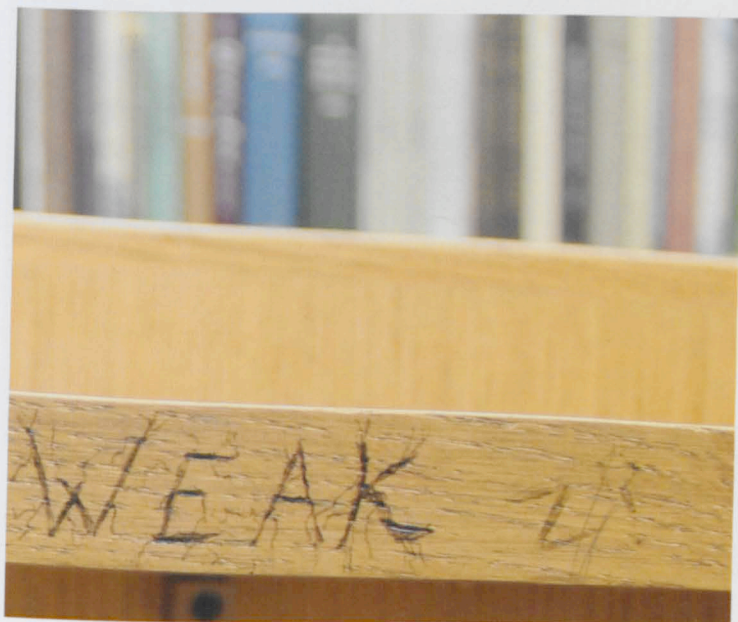
There was emphasis on efforts to end the disease entirely, because it was clear that the battle was far from over. However, in reflection of the past, it was also clear that progress has been made and the event ended with the promise that further progress would be made in the future.



Gelman Set to Exit the Time Machine

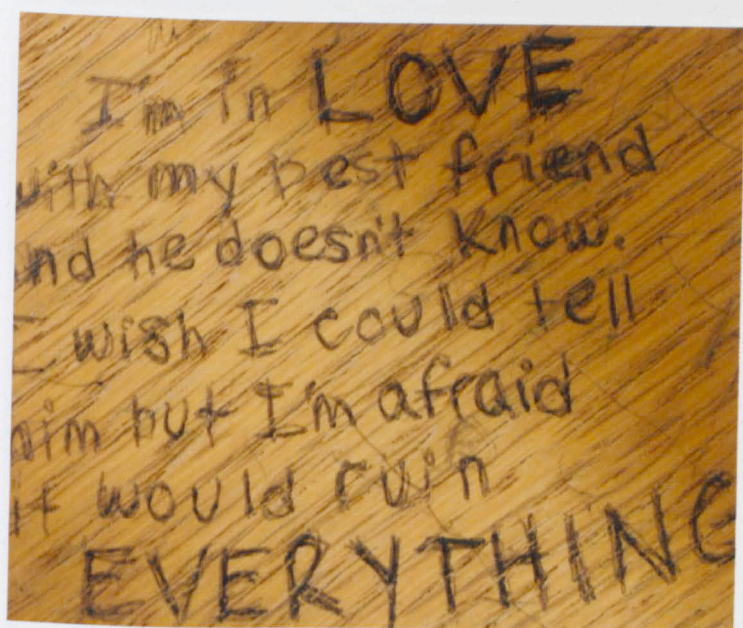
Students prepared to say goodbye to the Estelle and Melvin Gelman Library as they knew it with the impending Summer 2012 renovation of the first floor





Though heavily regarded by the undergraduate population as a hulking eyesore, renovations to the first floor of the Estelle and Melvin Gelman Library scheduled to begin during the summer of 2012 begged the question of what, if anything, would be missed. Once completed, renovations would include a new entrance and a completely redesigned first floor. The entrance would move to Kogan Plaza with a staircase leading up to a second floor entrance. Furthermore, the entrance floor would feature computer stations and laptop bars, as well as group learning spaces. Facets of the first floor that were sure to be missed included Café G and the overstuffed red couches by the circulation desk. Café G, a more casual group study area at the front of the library next to Starbucks, was the only area where students were

allowed to eat food. The huge glass windows created a fish bowl like environment that allowed students to see and be seen while studying. Renovation plans also included updating furniture throughout the building, including the cubicles on the third floor. This meant that students would no longer be able to read their favorite etchings right above their laptop screens and macroeconomics textbooks. Notable graffiti phrases included "love is friendship caught on fire," and the most frequent inscription, "sleep is for the weak." Though most students probably agreed that Gelman Library was overdue for an update, jokes about the "old" Gelman would undoubtedly be remembered fondly.



BOOKSTORE FINDS

Though most students grew tired of the bookstore after the first week of the semester, there were great items to be found that encouraged students to frequent more often



Eco Friendly Pen →

If you are environmentally conscious, this pen was a necessity for classes. The pen is made up of recycled materials and exemplified GW's ambitions toward environmental efficiency. These pens made an interesting gift for students who did not want to spend a lot of money but who valued character in a gift.



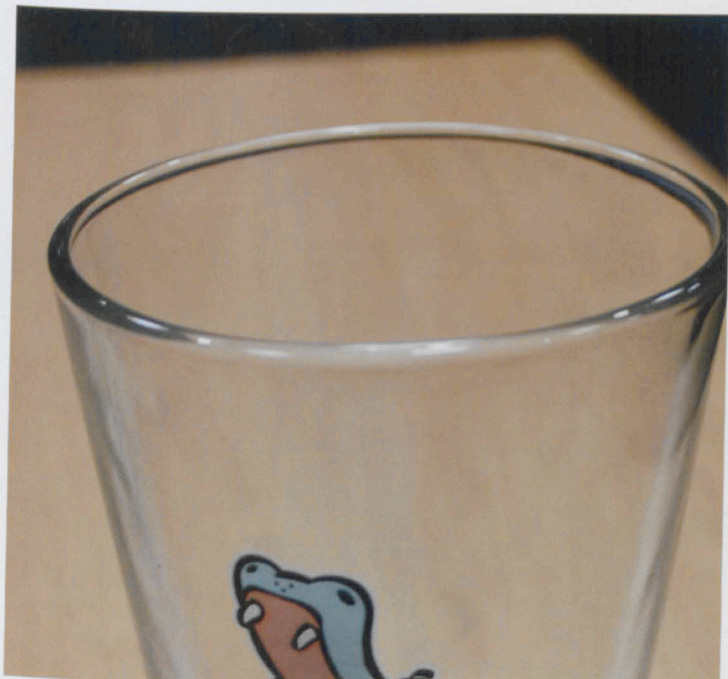
GWU Seal Afghan ↓

Made in America, this afghan was perfect for the student who wanted to display pride in both GW and the United States. The throw was on the pricey side, but it was very well constructed which ensured a lifetime of use. It was ideal for the student who had a long flight or a long drive between D.C. and his or her home.



Newborn Knit Booties →

Knit booties for newborn babies complete with the University's logo proved that the GW bookstore had everything. These very reasonably priced booties were great for alumni to give to their future children, who would hopefully also be future alumni. They were also great to put on your favorite teddy bear or even your cat or dog.



Adidas Tri-Blend T-Shirt ↑

This tri-blend shirt has a faded look with dull yellow lettering and Adidas' signature stripes at the corner, which gave it a retro 50's vibe reminiscent of a Catholic school gym uniform. As a result, it was a fashionable and subtle option for students to wear to Lerner Health and Wellness Center while still generating school spirit.

← Hippo Drinking Glass

Some students preferred GW's unofficial mascot, the hippo, to the University's official mascot. For such students, these sturdy everyday drinking glasses were perfect for dorm rooms and first off-campus apartments. Their durability ensured that they would last from freshman year through senior year.





Students Migrated North

With the opening of the reconstructed Ames Hall, the Mount Vernon Campus continued to appeal to an increasing amount of students

GW continued to increase the appeal of the Mount Vernon Campus with the renovation of Ames Hall. The renovated and largely expanded hall officially opened with a celebration on Feb. 3. The massive 50,000 square foot Ames Hall was the crown jewel of the Mount Vernon Campus. Housing classrooms, faculty offices, student lounges and study rooms, Ames was clearly built with utility in mind. The new improvements left room for the recent move of the University Honors Program



and the University Writing Program to the Mount Vernon Campus, as well as the opening of ZeBi, a new café. These mixed academic and dining developments left a feeling of excitement for the possible future of the Vern, buzzing with students and professors.

Though many students may still have been reluctant to get on the Vern Express, the new Ames Hall was not the only recent feature of the Mount Vernon Campus well worth the 10-minute ride. West Hall, which opened in Aug. 2010, featured its own dining hall as well as a fitness center, recording studios, a black-box theater and an art studio. The building provided amenities vastly exceeding those in buildings on both the Mount Vernon Campus and Foggy

Bottom. Ames Hall was no doubt a catalyst in the continuing popularity of the residence hall amongst not only freshman, but also more and more sophomores.

By far, the Vern's best-kept secret continued to be Eckles Library. Even the most die-hard Foggy Bottom resident could not resist the allure of Eckles during midterms and finals in comparison to Foggy Bottom's study options. Not only was seating always available, but it was relaxing to get away from the anxious tension pervading throughout the heart of the city for a couple of hours.

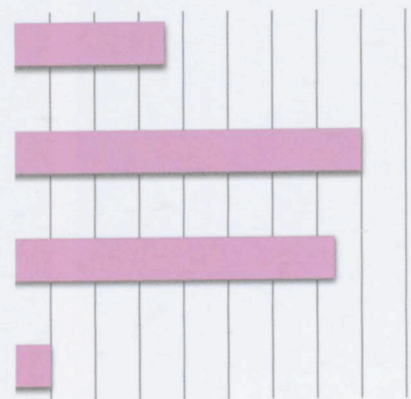
Whether or not you were a fan of the Vern, the new Ames Hall and the light it shed on all the Vern's amenities, promised a bright future for the University's second campus.

GW WENT TO THE POLLS

Testing the average
GW student

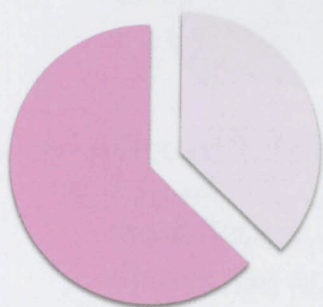
When you went to the
Vern, what did you do?

Eckles ruled!	5%
Only classes	37%
Uh...I didn't go to the Vern	40%
I think I went to the pool there once	8%



Would you have taken a course on Jay-Z if GW offered it?

Yes 0%
 No 37%
 No, but I would have taken a class on Beyoncé 63%

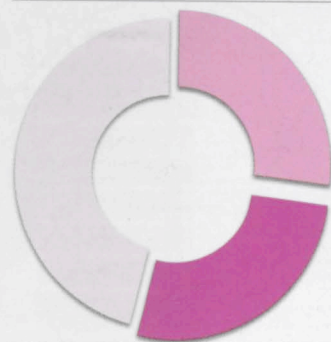


Where was your favorite place to eat on the Foggy Bottom Campus?

12% Roti
 9% Sweetgreen... they have frozen yogurt, right?
 5% FoBoGro
 12% GW Deli
 62% Whole Foods

Who should really be our official mascot?

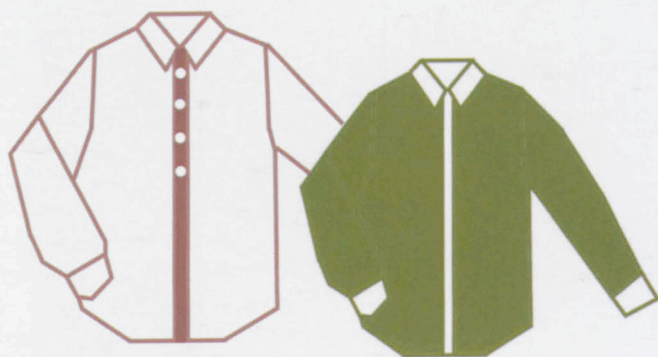
George 46%
 The Hippo 27%
 I thought George was an animorph 27%



What was your favorite on-campus public hangout spot?

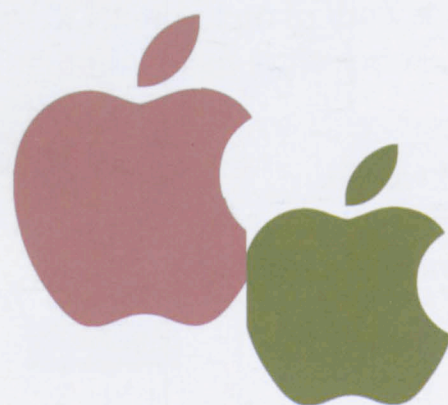
63% Kogan Plaza
 18% University Yard
 19% Starbucks

GW WAS #TRENDING



----- CHAMBRAY SHIRTS-----

There were always numerous clothing trends being promoted by GW students every year, but chambray shirts were particularly noteworthy in the 2011-2012 school year due to their versatility. The denim-like fabric shirts were popular among both men and women in either dark and light washes. They were worn oversized and rolled-up by both male and female students who wished to achieve the look of an ironic painter. More tailored shirts were paired with a dark blazer for a more formal and modern look evocative of an urban cowboy. As long as the washes were different, denim-on-denim was surprisingly cool again.



----- TABLETS-----

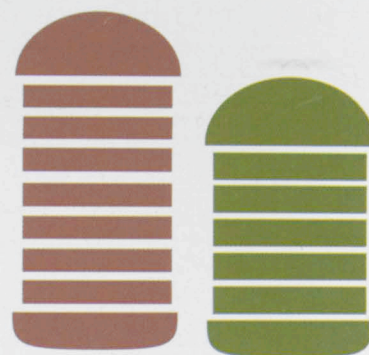
Tablets had been around for a while, but with the perpetually increasing popularity of the iPad after the introduction of the iPad 2, tablets of all kinds were spotted across campus. Students touted them under their arms like a small animal. Classrooms were also a hotspot for these tablets for the students who opted out of notebooks, computers or textbooks.

Just like they do every year, GW students proved that they were up on their trends



----- HOT YOGA -----

One of the biggest gripes that students had regarding the Lerner Health and Wellness Center was that it did not have a hot yoga studio. Hot Yoga, also known as Bikram Yoga, is practiced in a studio heated to 105 degrees in order to achieve optimal stretching ability while reducing mental stress and muscle tension. If you thought that there were less students running around campus with yoga mats, it was because many of them sought out hot yoga studios across the city in order to increase the efficiency of their weekly exercise routines.



-----BOUTIQUE BURGERS-----

Gourmet burgers joined custom salads and frozen yogurt as the GW student's favorite D.C. food options. The student body took notice of this dining option with the opening of Burger, Tap & Shake in the Avenue. BTS featured sizeable burgers with a sensational secret sauce and all kinds of available toppings for optimal customization. Students who wanted to dine on a more elegant burger were not disappointed with Black & Orange in Dupont Circle, which featured a unique cultural-themed burger menu including the "Ciao Down" burger with garlic, sundried tomato and basil (get it?).

HOW OLD ARE YOU NOW?

Every year, the University gathered to celebrate George Washington's birthday, but this year it was a particularly special birthday because it coincided with the 100th anniversary of GW's presence in Foggy Bottom.

Who would have guessed that 2023 G Street, now the home of the Department of Biological Sciences, was the first building purchased in Foggy Bottom in 1912 for The George Washington University? 12 years later, Corcoran Hall was built at this location. The University continued its tradition of expansion and renovation today, 100 years later.

GW's 100th anniversary on Foggy Bottom proved especially significant this year because it coincided with our namesake's 280th birthday. George Washington's birthday was celebrated with the annual birthday bonfire in University Yard on Feb. 22. The event opened with a marching band procession led by our official mascot, George, and a patriotic rendition of "Yankee Doodle." In celebration of the First President of the United States, students roasted marshmallows and ate s'mores, a quintessential American tradition. President Steven Knapp was on site with students, faculty and staff as he declared our school's namesake the "first real international hero of freedom and democracy."

What was unique about this year's bonfire celebration as opposed to those of years past was that there was an undeniable sense of reflection on the historical past of GW and pride for the University 100 years later. It had, after all, come a very long way in a century. From a single building on G Street, the founders of 1912 would not recognize the over 42 acre, and ever-growing, university.



In Full Bloom

Spring came unexpectedly early this year and along with it came an early cherry blossom bloom

For the first time in a long time, spring break in Washington actually felt like spring break. Students who remained on campus for the break experienced 70 degree, consistently sunny weather. The welcomed weather caused predictions to bump the expected peak bloom period for the city's roughly 3,770 cherry blossoms from March 27 to March 20. This allowed for a glad extension of the National Cherry Blossom Festival, given that this year's festival marked the hundredth anniversary since Japan gifted the iconic trees to Washington, D.C. Instead of the two-week festival that students were so familiar with, the anniversary festival spanned five weeks and featured numerous celebratory events that included the annual

Cherry Blossom Festival Parade down Constitution Avenue. Students who were too busy to make their way down to the Tidal Basin during peak bloom could view the cherry blossoms using the National Park Service's online webcam.

Despite the many welcome aspects of the annual festival, the cherry blossoms also brought an unwelcome symptom to Foggy Bottom: allergies. As the cherry blossoms reached peak bloom, so did pollen levels in the District. Students rushed to CVS and cleared out the allergy aisle, refusing not to take advantage of the early spring weather. Despite the minor suffering that the cherry blossoms may have caused, there was undoubtedly no student who would have thought it was not worth it.







Let's Ride



Students embraced the bicycle as an ideal mode of transportation both to and from class and all over the city

Bicycles on GW's campus had been steadily increasing for the past few years and this year students saw the trend continue. While bicycles had always been popular among college students, the popularity arguably increased among GW students around the same time that the Capital Bikeshare stations were installed around the city, including one on E Street next to the Red Cross. The program not only included the installation of bicycle stations, but also bike lanes and bike signals, making Washington one of the

country's most bicycle friendly cities. It was not surprising that the mode of transportation became so popular among GW students. Many students, including those living both on and off campus, chose to ride their bikes to class, parking them at many of the campus bike stands conveniently located outside of academic buildings. Students who looked to avoid the struggles of the Metro and the cost of a cab to travel farther distances chose to take advantage of their low maintenance bicycles to move throughout the city. Favorite

spots included the Smithsonian and Eastern Market. GW's administration also seemed to notice the bicycle trend, installing a brand new bicycle rack outside of City Hall in the spring, in stark contrast to students' previous use of the building's awning to lock and store their bikes. The school took notice at the perfect time because, understandably, bicycle use soared in the spring and did not look like it would decrease any time soon.



Bikes Around Campus



Gimme a Break

Students took advantage of a much-needed spring break after midterms

After rigorous weeks of midterms, students traveled across the country and the world in order to make the most of their well-earned spring break. There was a broad range of destinations and ventures that students undertook during the weeklong break. As usual, many students flooded the local airports trying to get home to their families and pets as quickly as possible in order to quell their homesickness. Many other students preferred to take a beach vacation, taking advantage of Miami's Ultra Music



Festival and heading south for the week. But some students took advantage of GW's commitment to community service and chose to dedicate their week to GW's alternative spring breaks program. In the 2011-2012 school year, programs included Appalachia, Atlanta, Cherokee Nation, Greensburg, Kansas, Gullah Island, New Orleans, New York City and Washington D.C., so there were plenty of destination sites to choose from. Katherine Winters, a junior, chose West Virginia as her home for the week. "I liked doing community service, but I was too active during the school year to be committed to a community service program," she said. Many GW students undoubtedly shared the same reasoning in choosing to dedicate their spring breaks to community service. In

West Virginia, Winters painted a house and installed siding on another house. But her time was not dedicated solely to community service; some time was also given to cultural activities, which included a visit to an old coal mining town for a local open mic night. "The people were really diverse, they weren't stereotypical rural hillbillies. They were genuine and really appreciative and their poetry and instrumentals were really impressive," Winters said. With the administration's focus on community service, the alternative spring break program was bound to expand in popularity. The program was ideal for students hoping for a spring break that combined both work and play, a concept that most GW students were used to practicing.



Students Worked on Their Fitness

Students not only stayed active in classes and their internships, but also at the gym and in running events around the city

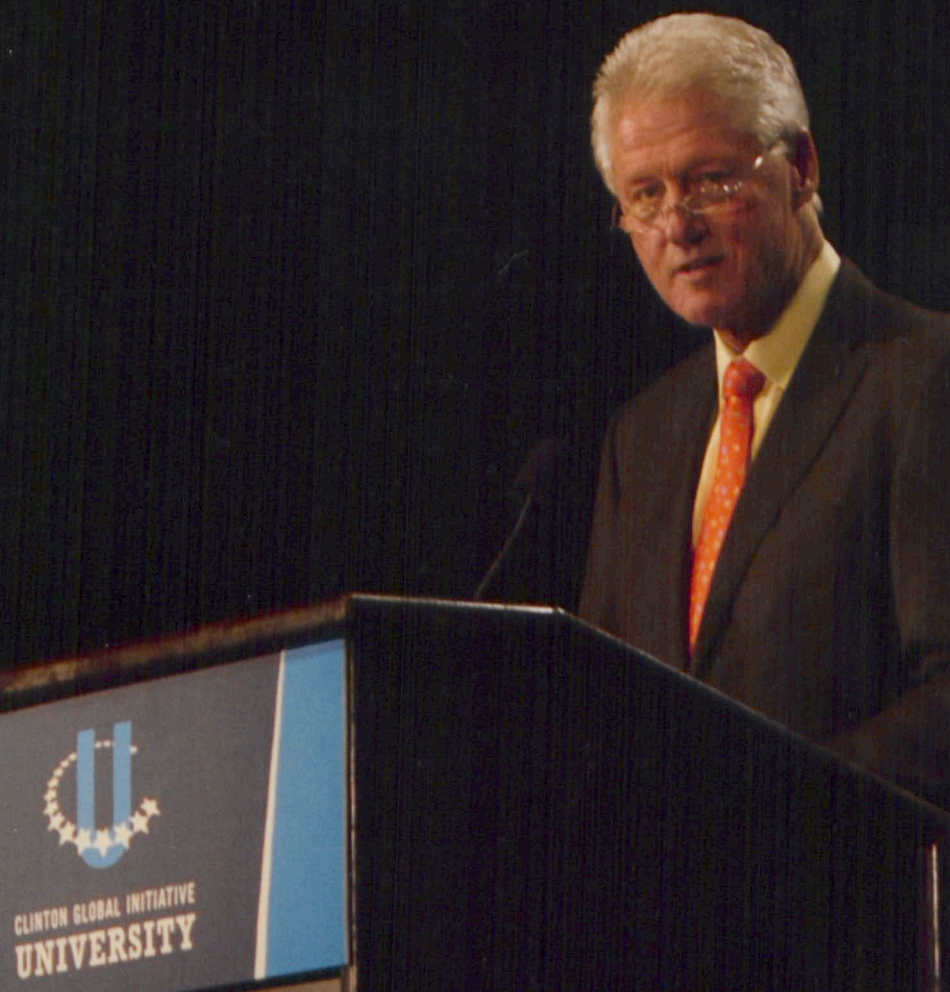
Walking around the city, students encountered countless runners and cyclists, so it was no surprise that Washington was one of the nation's healthiest cities. Walking around campus, it seemed that students tried to emulate their neighbors. Students not only utilized the campus sidewalks for their exercise routines, but also were frequently spotted leaving campus on their way for a run or a bicycle ride along the C & O Canal in Georgetown or on a monument run around the National Mall. Lerner Health and Wellness rivaled the D.C. Sports Club and Crunch, offering classes that included Cy-Yo, an 80-minute cycle/yoga combo class, and kickboxing. The facility also offered massage therapy and nutrition services. Students knew how to incorporate exercise into their busy schedules. They were frequently heard on campus asking their

friends if they wanted to take a spinning class or play squash after class. Health and fitness was not a priority exclusive to Foggy Bottom residents. In fact, their Mount Vernon counterparts arguably took more advantage of the available facilities that were offered to them. Ever since it's opening, the West Hall gym attracted Mount Vernon residents at all hours of the day. Foggy Bottom students who wanted to exercise in a more relaxing environment also took advantage of the sister campus' facilities. For those students who chose to skip the gym in favor of athletics to get their exercise in had plenty of options, including the campus' only tennis courts on the Vern. Closer to the city, students consistently played frisbee or tossed a football in University Yard.



The gym is a great resource for GW students to exercise and try new equipment in a social setting. I also found that running in D.C. has been an excellent way to learn the city.

Robin Shapiro '12



CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE
UNIVERSITY

CGIU Brought a Gifted Crowd to GW

Over 1,000 students representing all 50 states convened at GW to be in the presence of some of the world's most notable and powerful intellectuals

GW hosted the fifth annual Clinton Global Initiative University on the weekend of March 30 to April 1. President Bill Clinton founded CGIU in 2007 in order to bring together some of the brightest American and international students in the world to emphasize and discuss the world's current challenges. The hope is that the youth can ultimately be able to confront these problems and overcome them in order to create a better future. Over 1,000 students representing over 300 universities crowded into the Smith Center by 7:30 p.m. for the weekend's opening event to see moderator Bill Clinton discuss various topics in world affairs with a panel made up of President Steven Knapp, Madeline Albright, Rye Barcott, Usher and Sadiq Basiri Saleem.

All of the distinguished speakers were there to represent their individual foundations, which included the Albright Stonebridge Group (Chair, Albright), Carolina for Kibera (Co-founder, Barcott), Usher's New Look Foundation (Chair and Founder, Usher) and the Oruj Learning Center (Executive Director, Saleem). The main topic of the evening's discussion was the importance of public service and listeners were welcome to live-tweet questions throughout the night. Each speaker explained the necessity of public service and clarified the right way to engage in public service.

Albright expressed her love for democracy and discussed the importance of staying true to its ideals. "You can't impose democracy," she said. "That's an oxymoron." Barcott, only an undergraduate when he began to think about founding Carolina for Kibera, expressed to his undergraduate audience that they have the ability to start making a difference now and that they do not have to wait until later. As the panel's moderator, Clinton remained particularly charismatic throughout the evening, joking about his friendship with Usher.

At the end of the evening, Clinton asked Usher a question that an audience member had tweeted. The audience member asked if Usher would sing his answer to a question for the audience. After an initial sense of discomfort, Usher happily obliged, paying tribute to the late Whitney Houston by singing "Greatest Love of All," and encouraging the audience to join. The song's line, "I believe the children are our future," captured the spirit of the evening. Students undoubtedly left the Smith Center both star struck and newly motivated to make an impact now as opposed to later.



Spring Fling

Childish Gambino
drew one of the largest
crowds in recent history
to Spring Fling on the
hottest day of spring

Pushing nearly 90 degrees on April 15, students were determined to enjoy the weather on the first warm day in weeks, despite looming finals and final papers. Throughout the day, students were seen walking around campus wearing their brightest summer clothes including neon bathing suits and tank tops. Held in both Square 80 and the Smith Center and hosted by Program Board, students made their first stop in hoards to Square 80 in the early afternoon. There they grabbed free Spring Fling tank tops and sunglasses provided by HBO while indulging in food served up by the multitude of food trucks parked along G Street. The next stop was the Smith Center, where headliner Childish

Gambino took the stage at around 7 p.m. Some students began lining up as early as 2 p.m. to experience the musical offerings from the position of their choice, whether it was up in the stands or down on the floor of the basketball court. Childish Gambino, whose real name is Donald Glover, was likely known to most students as Troy on NBC's *Community*. But students who had never heard his music before definitely did not seem disappointed. Undergraduates of all ages moshed together in front of the stage as smoke and lights of all colors filled the room. Glover even tailored his lyrics to suit his audience, incorporating GW and D.C. into his powerful encore, freestyle rap.







GW Chalk-In

Students took a break from their frantic final week of classes and reclaimed their childhoods

One of the University's most unique annual events, The GW Chalk-In, could not have happened at a better time. The event, hosted by the University Counseling Center, encouraged stress relief in preparation for final exams. After a weekend packed with rain and long trips to the library, the sun finally came out. As many students struggled to finish strongly in their classes before finals, and then summer jobs and internships, it was difficult not to be nostalgic for childhood. From 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on April 24, H Street was shut down between 21st and 22nd Streets. For two-and-a-half hours, instead of being the campus' busiest block, H Street was reminiscent of every undergraduate's favorite childhood playground. Students covered the block, including the sidewalks, with chalk. Colorful drawings blended together as students got on their hands and knees and worked furiously to finish their masterpieces before their next classes. By the time that three o'clock came around, H Street resembled a concrete quilt that symbolized GW's diverse community. At the end of the day, nearly all the chalk was smudged away as cars resumed their hasty commute down H Street, but the community still remained.



THE WHITE HOUSE
Inaugural Ball

Compuses
FB
Coach
Siegel

G

Thank
a
man
Lyle
H



Robert Chernak

After a 24-year relationship with the school, one of GW's most recognizable figures announced his retirement

Robert Chernak, Senior Vice President for Student and Academic Support Services, announced his intention to retire from the position on June 30, 2012. A major figure in the University's history since taking a position with GW in 1988, Chernak was credited with enhancing GW's community atmosphere as a result of sweeping changes to residential life, athletics, admissions and affordability.

Perhaps his most well known achievement was his role in the creation and continuing expansion of Colonial Inauguration, the first of its kind, two-and-a-half day freshman orientation that nearly all students experienced since its development. CI aided in the evolution of GW from a commuter school and was "meant to start to establish a sense of community," Chernak said. Among the many students who knew Chernak most likely met him during their own Colonial Inauguration. It was clear that he greatly admired the University's undergraduate students and would ideally have liked to meet every one of them personally. "If you don't enjoy your relationship with students, you're probably in the wrong business," Chernak said. "You've added to the development of a student that's life-long."

Chernak continually enhanced the community atmosphere of the University since he started working at GW. He helped to add 13 residence halls to the campus, meaning that many more undergraduates than ever before lived together on

campus. He also increased the varsity sports teams from 16 to 22, which undoubtedly led to an increase in GW's school spirit.

Chernak's office was clearly an indication of the pride that he felt for GW and the pride that he hoped to instill in its students throughout his career. GW memorabilia crowded the office, including multiple photographs of Chernak with high-profile guests of the University throughout the years. The office not only produced a sense of nostalgia for GW's history, but also for Chernak's entire life and career. Boston Red Sox and Boston University regalia displayed pride for his home state and his alma mater, where he started his career as an administrator after graduation. The numerous symbolic shovels Chernak kept from multiple groundbreaking ceremonies emphasized the extent of the University's structural development since the start of his career.

Chernak's departure came at a time when anyone ever associated with the university could confidently say that it is in a better place today than it was 24 years ago. He planned on taking a sixth month sabbatical before he took a position teaching in the Graduate School of Education and Human Development. Despite his decision to retire, Chernak showed no indication of ending his relationship with GW anytime soon.



STUDENT LIFE





Chaos and Caravans

Natural disasters complicated Move-In

In the days leading up to fall move-in, D.C. was hit with two natural disasters. Early in the week an earthquake struck and was felt along much of the East Coast. Little damage resulted, but for many students the 5.9 magnitude earthquake was like nothing they had felt before. A few days later, news of an impending hurricane led University officials to change the official move-in date from Saturday to Friday. Due to the storm, students and parents altered their plans and traveled to campus a day early. On Saturday, move-in volunteers expected large crowds, but housing staff estimated that there would only be around 1,000 students moving in campus-wide, a small number compared to original projections.

"It was hard to imagine that they really didn't need our help, especially when I thought back on the day that I moved in as

a freshman," move-in volunteer Alli Hoff said. "We knew as soon as we got to Thurston that something was up because the street should have been packed with cars, but instead it was empty."

On Saturday evening and into early Sunday morning, Hurricane Irene struck, bringing with it high winds and heavy rains. Sunday morning students awoke to flooded dorms and scattered debris. Gelman even had to shut down due to a fallen tree blocking the entrance. For new and returning students alike, the hurricane proved an interesting kick-off to the fall semester.

•• Story | Hyacinth Mascarenhas





Colonial Cabinet 2011

Students welcomed
the Class of 2015

34 students served as members of the Colonial Cabinet during the Class of 2015's Colonial Inauguration. In the spring, Cabinet members got to know each other while practicing for skits, events and discussions that would take place over the summer. The relationships they developed made Colonial Inauguration a unique and enjoyable experience for both freshmen and upperclassmen.

"After spending countless hours of training and practice together, we all became good friends, and our strong bond served as great

foundation to allow us to usher in the Class of 2015," said senior Sara Fischer.

With six semesters under their belt, the seniors that participated in Colonial Inauguration were able to reflect on their years at GW and pass on that advice to freshmen. During their training, these students learned about academic and administrative aspects of the University that they had not known about previously. Many seniors felt that this opportunity was a great way to give back to the community that had already given them so much.



Cabinet members participated in many events during CI. They introduced themselves to the incoming class, danced, sang, participated in student or parent skits, conducted small groups and took students out into the city.

Jen Sansone,
Director of Colonial Inaguration Headquarters

Hip to be Square

New buildings on campus improved student life

After opening in summer 2011, Square 54 at 2200 Pennsylvania Avenue quickly became one of the most popular spots on campus. With multiple restaurants and two banks, Square 54 offered students everything they needed within close range. The Whole Foods Market at Square 54, in particular, was a hotspot for Foggy Bottom residents.

"The Whole Foods was nice but it was a little intimidating to me," junior Annie Gittess said. "There were always so many people and when I got into the heart of the store, I felt a little overwhelmed. But I liked having the Whole Foods there because it was so convenient."

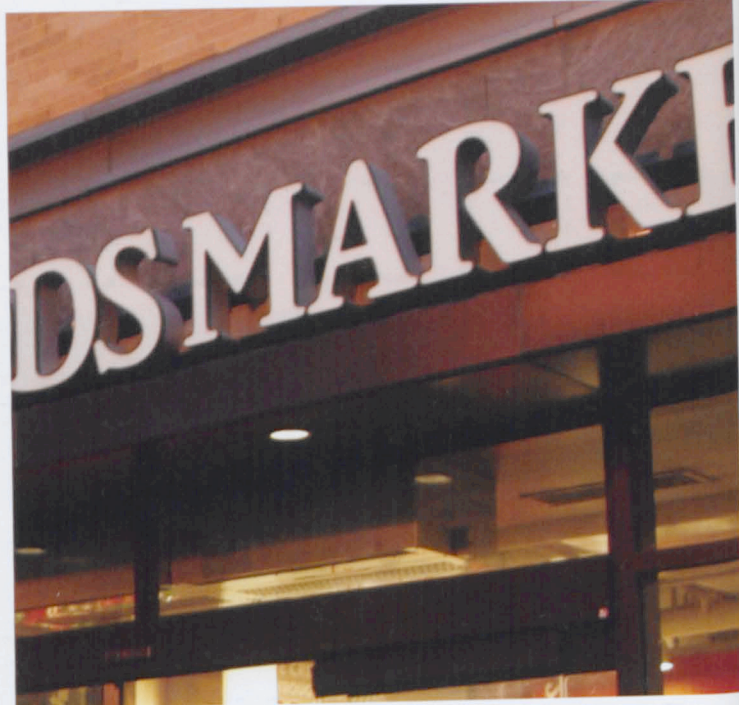
The previous year's construction also brought with it a new glass-fronted Charles E. Smith Center where University events would be held. Construction in other areas on campus continued in 2012. The parking garage near Munson and Fulbright was demolished to be replaced by a new science and engineering building. On the Mount Vernon Campus, a new academic building was constructed where Ames Hall used to stand. Each of these projects aimed to improve student life on campus.





The strip of restaurants below the avenue made GW's campus into even more of a community. It became a central hub of student life and dining.

Marissa Glauberman '12



GOOD EATS

Campus dining options
offered a variety of
choices

In the days leading up to the grand opening of Whole Foods in Square 54, students wrote out grocery lists and gathered up their eco-friendly bags. When the store opened in Sept. 2011, students and faculty flooded the two-story market. Even President Steven Knapp attended its grand opening.

In addition to Whole Foods, 2011 saw the opening of several restaurants on campus. In Square 54, Roti and Sweetgreen provided healthy options like salads and vegetarian dishes, while Circa offered a full menu in a casual dining setting. J Street was also overhauled, eliminating Wendy's and Chick-fil-A and adding the Metro Diner and the Coffee Stop. On occasion, J Street served





special dishes from surrounding D.C. locations, including Maryland crab presented in buckets with a wooden mallet. The new J Street was popular with both freshmen and upperclassmen alike.

"I like the bigger J Street salad bar," senior Alexandria Flatter said. "I had roll-over J Street money that I used from the last three years."

Yet much of what was generally considered standard fare for GW students remained. The GW Deli, Au Bon Pain and Carvings were among students' favorites. Off campus, Chipotle and more upscale dining options in Georgetown were popular. Whether they wanted a quick bite or a casual dinner, students were sure to find what they were looking for in and around campus.





you Chairman Bernanke!

The New York Times.

**GOLD STANDARD DROPPED TEMPORARILY
TO AID PRICES AND OUR WORLD POSITION;
BILL READY FOR CONTROLLED INFLATION**

Dollar Developments

PRESIDENT TAKES ACTION

Moves to Bring Dollar
Closer to the Pound
and Raise Prices.

CURRENCY KEEP CLOSE

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK, N.Y., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1936

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK, N.Y., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1936

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THE NEW YORK TIMES



Ben Bernanke

The newest addition to GW's guest lecturers

Students were very rarely given the opportunity to take a course outside of the standard course catalog. In late January, however, the GW Business School provided students with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to take part in a course entitled "Reflections on the Federal Reserve and Its Place in Today's Economy." The course, led by Professor Tim Fort, featured a four-part lecture series by Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke. In order to enroll, students were required to submit a resume and one-page letter about their interest in the Federal Reserve. Thirty students were accepted to participate in the 1.5 credit course.

Over the course of four class sessions, Bernanke discussed the fundamentals of central banks, the Federal Reserve's response to the

most recent financial crisis and other related topics. Many students found Bernanke quite knowledgeable and personable, and several of them praised his skills as a teacher.

"I thought he was very well spoken and calm the whole time," senior Andres Martinez said. "It made us, as students, very calm. He was kind of like another professor. I forgot he was chairman of the Federal Reserve after 15 minutes."

At the conclusion of the series, Professor Fort selected a number of students' papers to submit to the Federal Reserve Chairman. Bernanke stated that he looked forward to reading the papers.

The GW Hatchet contributed to this report.

Foundations of Faith

Agapé Campus Christian Fellowship



The Agapé Campus Christian Fellowship, a religious organization represented on campus, served as a non-denominational Christian campus ministry of the Agapé Mission Church. The Agapé Campus Christian Fellowship was dedicated to sharing the message and power of God's unconditional love to the George Washington University campus through a lifestyle of revival consisting of worship, prayer, discipleship and fellowship. Agapé offered

interested students the opportunity to learn more about Christianity through music, discussion and bible study. The president of the 2011 Chapter was Sara Casay.

Agapé hosted a variety of events, including hiking at Great Falls, tutoring students at a D.C. middle school, teaming up with other campuses to host career nights and hosting numerous guest speakers.

Religious groups came together on campus

Jewish Student Association



One of the largest religious groups on campus, the Jewish Student Association (JSA) functioned as the foundation for Jewish life. They worked together with GW Hillel and GW students and staff in order to promote, support and celebrate the Jewish community on campus.

The goals of JSA were to “build a Jewish community on campus, provide a space for socializing through a variety of engagement and programming, network with other student

organizations as well as the larger GW community, learn from a variety of viewpoints and engage in meaningful dialogue,” JSA President Jenny Orel said.

The organization held a variety of events throughout the year including the annual welcome back BBQ, Shabbat and holiday celebrations and Talk Israel. JSA was also a major co-sponsor for Hunger Awareness Week.

❖ Story | Hyacinth Mascarenhas



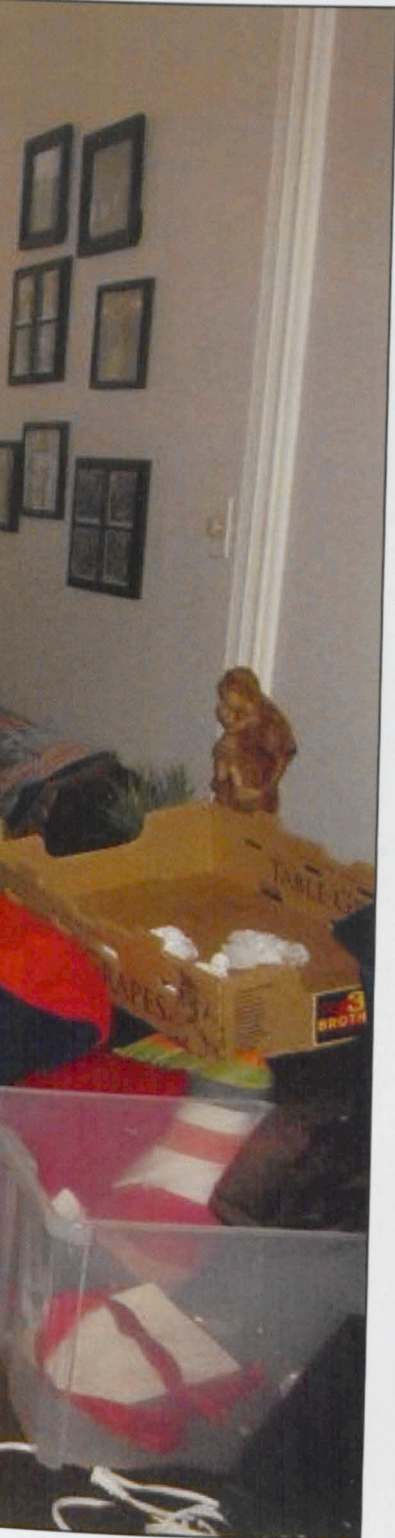
Forging Faith

GW celebrated religious diversity on campus

The Muslim Student Association (MSA) aimed to bring together Muslim and non-Muslim students by holding a number of social, educational and service events throughout the year. Events including Islam Awareness Week helped encourage peace and tolerance on campus. To give students an outlet to practice their faith, the organization established a prayer space and held weekly prayers.

"The MSA's mission was to bring together Muslim students on campus and also to promote awareness of the Islamic religion to non-Muslims," President Raneem Rajjoub said.

Like the MSA, the Newman Catholic Student Center offered students the opportunity to practice their faith among friends in a welcoming environment. Every Sunday, students



The Newman Center at George Washington University is your home away from home.

Amy West, Campus Minister



gathered at the St. Stephen Martyr Parish to celebrate Mass. The Newman Catholic Student Center's townhouse on campus also welcomed both Catholic and non-Catholic students.

"Any student was always welcome to stop by to pray, study, eat or just hang out!" Campus Minister Amy West said. "We welcomed participation in a variety of activities."

In the fall, the University hosted an Interfaith Dinner in the Marvin Center Grand Ballroom. The dinner brought together students and faculty members of diverse faiths in celebration of the theme "Better Together." Through food, music and conversation, members of various religious organizations shared their traditions and promoted religious tolerance.

Hot Off The Press

Student publications enlightened & entertained the community

In The Hatchet's townhouse on G Street, Hatchet writers spent hours producing the quality articles that students read every week. Covering campus news, sporting events and student life, the staff wrote on a wide range of topics that affected the GW community.

"Hatchet staffers are among the most dedicated students on campus," Editor-in-Chief Lauren French said. "We deeply care about providing fresh and exciting content for the GW community, and that dedication makes our team stand out."

While The Hatchet focused primarily on current events, the literary magazine Wooden Teeth published works of poetry, prose and art from GW students and faculty. Every Tuesday night, the editorial staff met to review the latest submissions to their bi-annual publication. Editors of Wooden Teeth searched for only the best cutting-edge contributions, hoping to showcase the highest quality of work possible.

"I think that the members of Wooden Teeth are generally fun, supportive, relaxed people, and it was great to be welcomed into that atmosphere," Communications Director Irene Gutleber said.

Wooden Teeth also held a number of poetry readings during the year, including a Halloween-themed reading in the fall. Through events and publication, both The Hatchet and Wooden Teeth celebrated GW students' writing.

The Hatchet

- Bi-weekly publication
- Reports on campus news, general current events
- Founded in 1904
- The second oldest continually run newspaper after The Washington Post

The Wooden Teeth

- GW's oldest literary magazine
- Undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, alumni and staff were encouraged to submit pieces each semester
- Seven member staff



Strength in Numbers

NROTC and GW Veterans encouraged leadership

GW's Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps program (NROTC) helped students gain the necessary skills to become leaders in the Marines and the Navy. Through field training exercises and physical tests, members learned their battalion's principles and honed their leadership skills. Students participated in activities both in and out of D.C., including a summer cruise, in which students trained with Navy personnel. NROTC also hosted guest speakers, such as Four-Star Admiral Stavridis. Many members found the opportunities that NROTC provided rewarding.

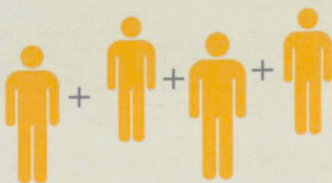
"The experience was humbling," Public Affairs Officer Erika Anderson said. "To be counted among the ranks of those who have served so selflessly and given the ultimate sacrifice was the greatest honor of all."

Representing over 700 student veterans, GW Veterans offered its members a number of opportunities to interact with fellow students. To meet its primary goals, the organization provided resources to address veterans' issues and created a forum for members to share their experiences. By achieving their goals, GW Veterans hoped to raise awareness of veterans' issues on campus.



GW Veterans' Primary Goals:

- 1 To provide a social network among all veteran, active duty and reserve component students



- 2 To raise awareness of the issues and experiences of student veterans



- 3 To foster a supportive environment through peer to peer counseling and resources for veterans





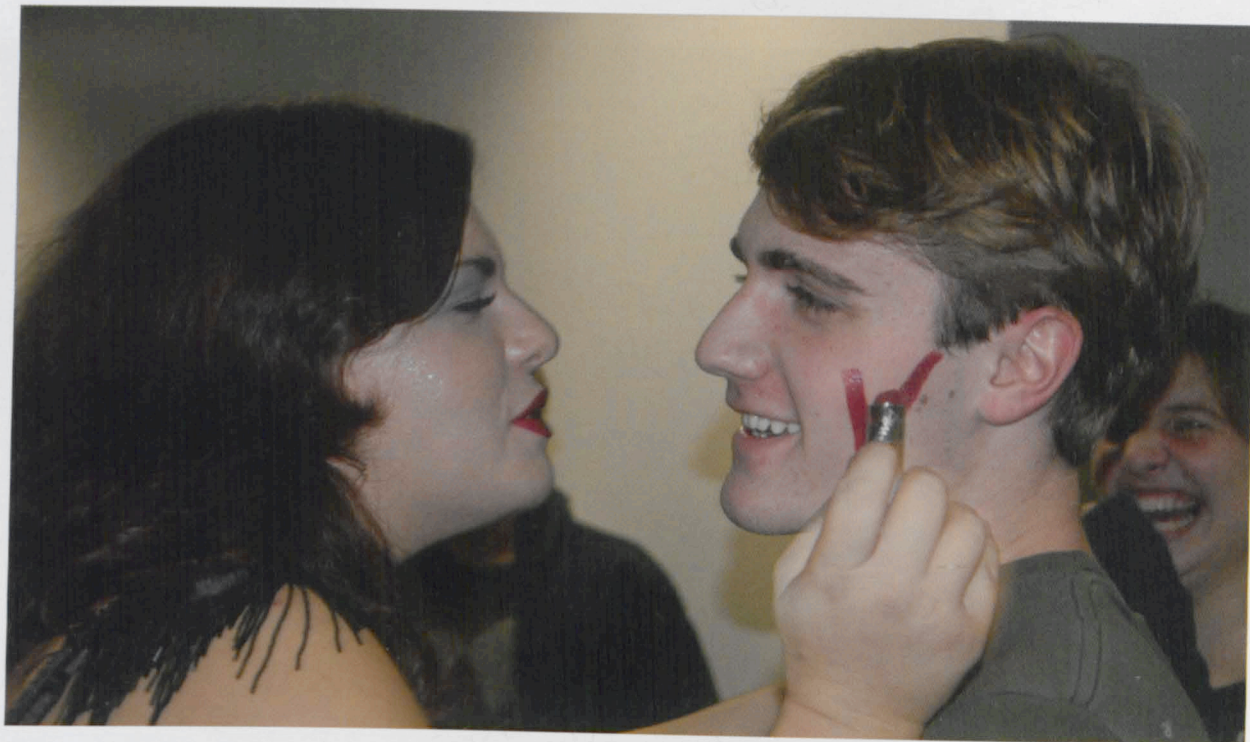
We feel we have a unique opportunity to share our experiences and insight as veterans with a community comprised of the current and future leaders of our nation.

Scott Disney, GW Veterans President

Acting Out

Theater groups encouraged
audience participation





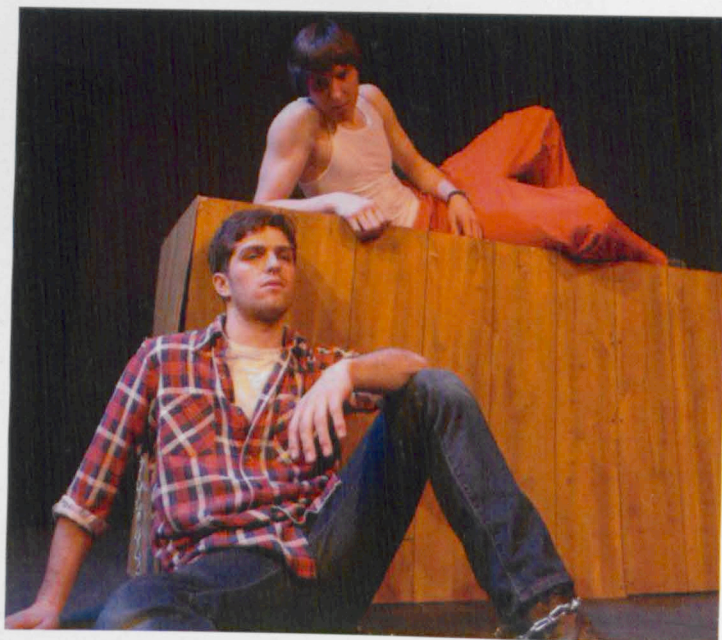
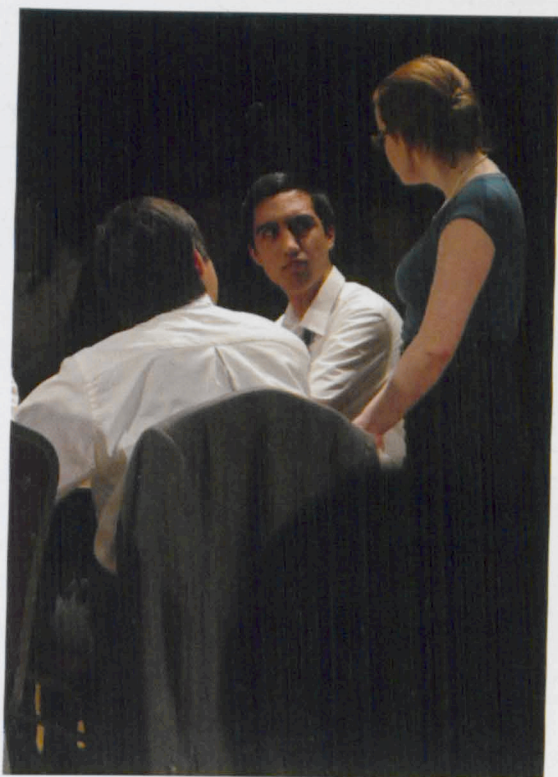
Four performance groups made up GW's Student Theater Council, which encouraged students interested in both the technical and performance aspects of theater to join. Forbidden Planet Productions (FPP) and Generic Theatre Company furthered the council's mission by welcoming interested students with varying levels of experience. FPP aimed to include as many actors, directors and technicians as possible in each show. Members could participate in both musicals and plays, including *Rocky Horror Picture Show* in the fall and the *Musical Cabaret* in the spring. Every opportunity gave students a chance to hone their skills and to develop a passion for theater.

"I joined FPP because as a freshman it felt the most well-organized, and the company members were so welcoming," Executive Producer Ian

Frazier said. "I'd like to think FPP still possessed those same qualities."

Like FPP, Generic Theatre Company encouraged not only freshmen, but also upperclassmen to participate in its shows. During the fall and spring seasons, Generic put on a number of provocative pieces as well as the annual 24-Hour Play and Freshman Showcase. As GW's oldest student theater organization, Generic Theatre continued to uphold its traditions in 2012.

"We were very grateful for the number of people who tried out for our shows and wanted to be involved in the company," Executive Producer Rachel Hamilton said. "The student theater community is always growing, and Generic was thankful to be a part of it!"





OLAS



ISA

Culture Club

Students celebrated cultural traditions

The Organization of Latino American Students (OLAS) promoted a spirit of diversity, awareness and communication. The organization welcomed students of all races and ethnicities to celebrate and to learn about the many aspects of Latino culture.

"From our youngest members to our alumni, our organization was comprised of individuals of various backgrounds, with each member willing to showcase their unique experiences with the entire organization as well as the collective GW public," President Miguel Alvarez said.

The organization held a variety of events throughout the year, including Hispanic Heritage Month, La Fiestasa

and Noche de Cultura. Members also traveled abroad for Alternative Spring Break.

The Indian Student Association (ISA) served as a home-base for the Indian community in and around GW. The organization preserved, promoted and celebrated the culture and traditions of India. As one of the largest student organizations on campus, ISA held a variety of events including Navratri, the Diwali show, the Holi show and an annual semi-formal. Members also participated in mixers with neighboring Indian students' organizations in the D.C. area.



It was the diversity of intellect, ethnicity, passion and experiences that allowed OLAS to create events and activities on campus that reflected the various spectrums of Latin American culture.

Miguel Alvarez,
OLAS President



Get Into the Race

Political organizations prepared for the 2012 election

With the Republican primaries well underway and the presidential election only months away, the College Republicans and the College Democrats provided a forum for students to discuss the issues, share viewpoints and debate ideas. During the 2011-2012 academic year, the College Republicans aimed to spread the conservative message through education and service. The organization brought in several speakers, including Republican presidential candidate Jon Huntsman. Members also took part in several Republican presidential campaigns. The opportunities that the College Republicans provided stirred many students to get involved in politics.

"We sought to create a close knit organization where Republican students could meet other like-minded individuals, exchange ideas and openly debate issues," Chairwoman Kaitlyn

Martin said.

In the spring, the College Democrats turned their attention to the 2012 presidential election. By hosting a number of events and speakers, the organization hoped to encourage students to participate in the campaign to reelect President Barack Obama. In the fall, the College Democrats hosted former Press Secretary Robert Gibbs. The organization also held student and professor debates, which allowed students to engage in politics with both their peers and professors.

"We served as an outlet for students to express their political views and get involved," Communications Director Shiah Shahmohammadi said. "As the political climate grew increasingly divided and polarized, the GW College Democrats worked to promote people over politics."



"GW was an incredibly active political campus, and no matter your political preference, each student was well informed and opinionated."

Alex Faler '12

⌘ Photos | Francis Rivera and Michelle Rattinger/GW Hatchet







We prided ourselves on providing a professional experience, whether it was on-air or behind the scenes.

Jorge Gadala-Maria
WRGW general manager

LIVE FROM GW

GWTV and WRGW inform and entertain

During 2012, WRGW and GWTV tried to reach a larger audience by expanding their programming. Both organizations were student-run, providing a unique perspective on events occurring on- and off-campus. In the fall, WRGW began its first year as WRGW District Radio. Under this new title, the station covered sports, music and news events throughout D.C. To reach listeners with different tastes and interests, WRGW welcomed students of all backgrounds to participate in programming and production.

"We didn't limit our members to journalism or communication majors, or to undergrads or grad students," general manager Jorge Gadala-Maria said. "This was reflected in the broad variety of programming from bluegrass music shows,

to Sunday morning political talk shows, to live broadcasts of all GW basketball games."

GWTV's staff, though small, also brought a variety of skills and interests to the station. Members of the executive board took on a number of tasks, including running the sound board and broadcasting on-camera. With new programming, members hoped to reach students throughout campus.

"It was unique this year in particular because we were establishing ourselves as a news outlet as well as a television station," general manager Eugenia Finizio said. "With a new website, a sports and news division and fresh content filming in the studio weekly, GWTV was on the rise as an organization."





For Your Entertainment

Program Board organized
events on campus

Program Board planned events throughout the year that brought together GW students, faculty, staff and alumni. Members helped organize some of the biggest happenings of 2012, which ranged from social events, like Spring Fling, to service events, like Relay for Life. In the fall, Program Board welcomed a number of new students to the organization.

"I really think this year was special for Program Board because we had so many new Executive Board members," Chair Connor Currier said.

"Even though it was challenging, it was exciting to hear new ideas and work with new people."

While the Executive Board arranged events, the organization encouraged the entire GW community to participate in programming decisions. Students could sign up for PB Happenings, Program Board's newsletter, as well as send suggestions to Program Board's Chair, Connor Currier. Through diverse and entertaining programming, members hoped to make 2012 a great year.



GirlTalk performs at GW at one of the many fun activities planned by Program Board this year





Promoting Equality

Allied in Pride supported the LGBTQ community

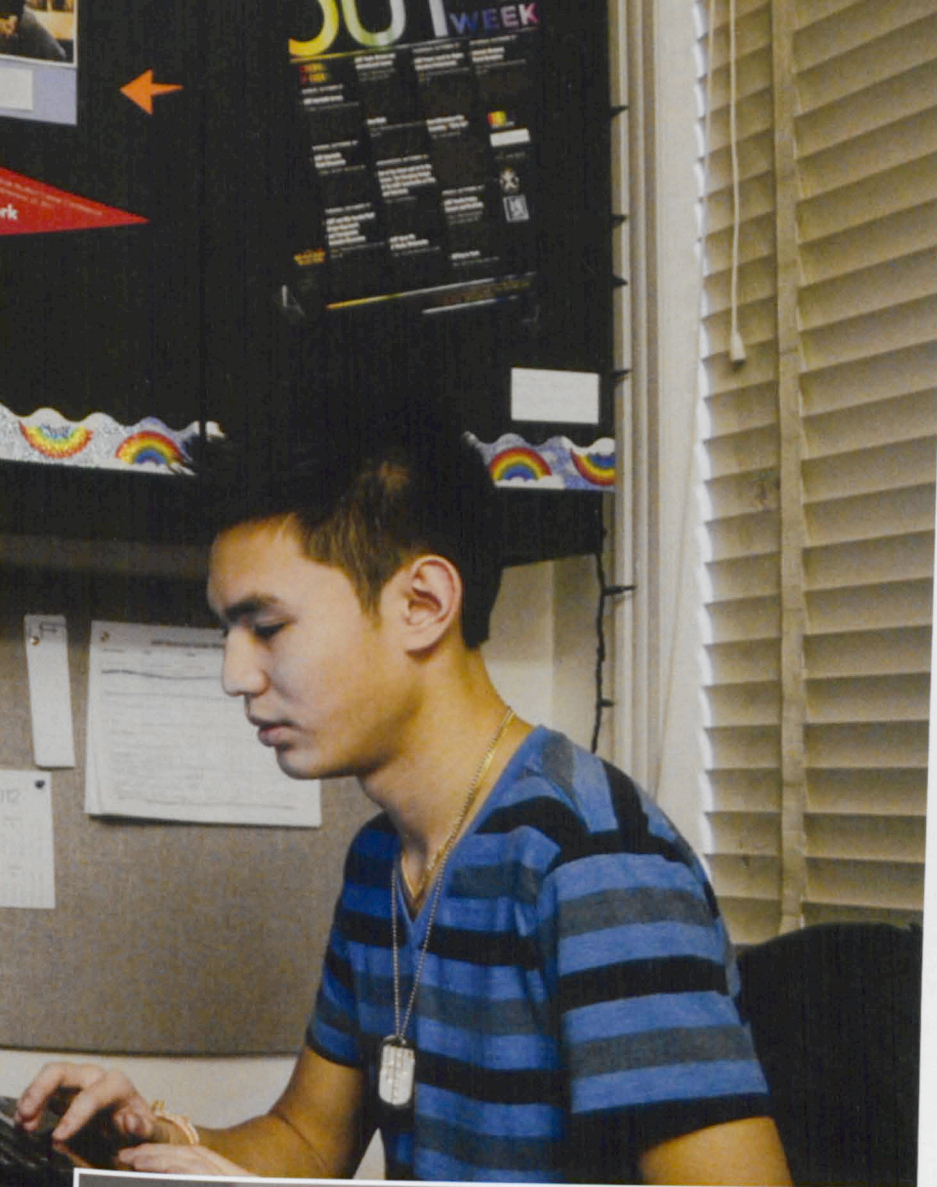
Allied in Pride aimed to create a welcoming environment for LGBTQ students by spreading awareness of LGBTQ issues and promoting LGBTQ students' rights. In 2012, the organization hoped to increase the number and diversity of its events. Members also negotiated with the GW administration to put condom

dispensers in the residence halls, giving students access to free protection. With these initiatives, Allied in Pride fostered a strong community of LGBTQ advocates.

"We were committed to making the University a safe and exciting place for the LGBTQ community and continuing awareness of why it was important to support

LGBTQs," President Blake Bergen said.

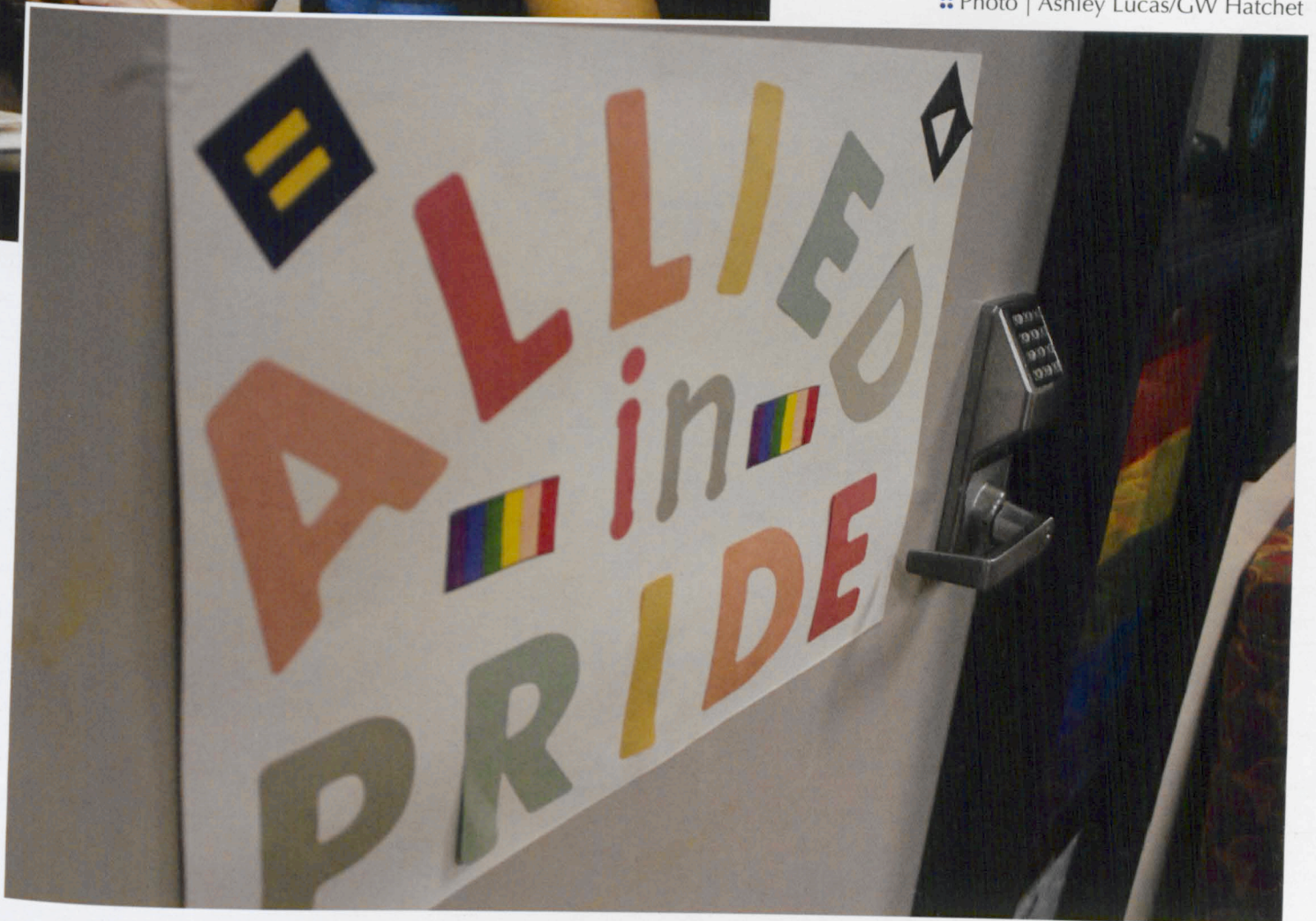
In the fall, members participated in educational and social events, including a discussion on LGBTQ rights and a social with Georgetown students. In the spring, Allied in Pride took a day hike with Trails and hosted a drag ball.



We were committed to making the University a safe and exciting place for the LGBTQ community and continuing awareness of why it was important to support LGBTQs.

Blake Bergen,
Allied In Pride President

Photo | Ashley Lucas/GW Hatchet



A PASSION FOR SONG

A cappella groups performed for the D.C. community



Bonded by a passion for song, performance and fun, the GW Sirens functioned as an all-female a cappella group on campus. Members arranged their own music in every genre from hip-hop to classic rock.

Founded in 2003, the group has recorded four albums with a new one to be released spring 2012. They also won "Best Overall Performance" at GW's annual Battle of the A Cappella groups in 2008 and 2010, establishing themselves as a solid, vibrant a cappella group on campus.

"What makes the Sirens unique is the bond that we share, not only in our love of music but in our unity as an ensemble," member Laura Scuderi said. "We were all extremely close, and this came through in our performance style and quality."

The group performed at a variety of events throughout the year including Midnight Breakfast,

Acappellapalooza, The Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week Poetry Slam, Women's and Men's Basketball Games and Raas Chaos.

As the oldest a cappella group on campus, the GW Troubadours, composed of 21 diverse GW students, arranged and performed music from a variety of genres from R&B and rock to jazz and hip-hop.

"Each person brought their unique perspective on song selection and performance styles to the group, and we all worked together to make the best product possible," member Sam Smith said.

The group hosted its annual Acappellapalooza during Colonials Weekend, and performed at a GOP Debate on CNN and at the White House during the holidays. They also collaborated with the music department and other groups for concerts and special events throughout the year.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

- Surprise guest group at the GW Sirens Winter Concert
- Featured guest group for the GW Pitches Winter Concert
- Official ceremony and reception musical guest for the wedding at The St. Regis D.C.
- Special musical guest at the Whole Foods Market Foggy Bottom Grand Opening Celebration

At Your Service

Camp Kesem and Circle K helped D.C. families

In the fall of 2011, the stairways of Rome Hall and Phillips Hall were plastered with flyers of a long-haired Meredith McGrath looking at the camera, her mouth agape in horror. McGrath, also known as Zamboni, was a camp counselor for Camp Kesem who shaved her head to raise money for the organization. This was one of several fundraisers hosted during the academic year that would help fund the summer camp.

Camp Kesem was a summer program run entirely by GW students for children of cancer patients. In summer 2011, 30 eager campers and counselors gathered to take part in a variety of activities, including ice cream food fights, water sliding, rope swinging and water gun battles.

"The best part of being a part of the Camp Kesem staff was being a part of a family at GW and knowing that all of our hard work throughout the year made a significant difference in the lives of our campers and their families," Executive Co-Chairs Chelsea Benjamin and Grace Koehler said. "Plus, we got to be kids too!"

Like the members of Camp Kesem, students involved in Circle K wanted to help families in the D.C. area while also having fun and building friendships. In 2011, Circle K's 34 members visited pre-schools, hosted a dog adoption and participated in the AIDS Walk. These students were extremely dedicated to their work. In the fall semester alone, they were able to complete over 500 hours of service.

"We truly believe in doing service for the love of service," Circle K President Johee Chung said.





There were so many opportunities to give back to the community while at GW. Volunteering for Circle K was one of the best experiences of my life.

Tori Roseman '12

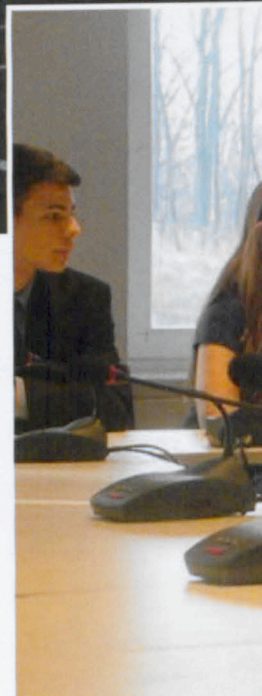
Global Knowledge

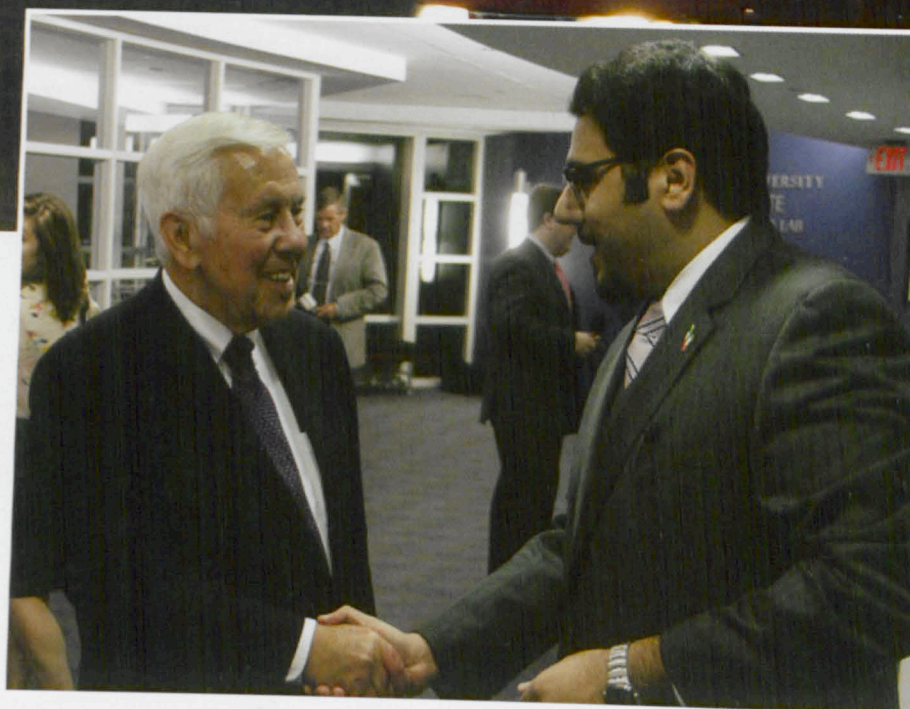
The International Affairs Society gained prestige on campus

The 2011-2012 academic year proved to be the International Affairs Society's most successful year, as evidenced by both an increase in membership and President Knapp's recognition of its excellence as an organization. Members of the organization were guests of honor at the Board of Trustees dinner, during which President Knapp highlighted the organization as an example of student excellence.

The International Affairs Society boasted an unmatched Model UN team, which won first place at both the Columbia University Model UN tournament and at the Harvard National Model UN tournament. The organization also hosted notable world leaders, including the former President of Spain, Jose Maria Aznar, and the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, Jose Miguel Insulza. These speakers helped the organization to carry out its core mission of educating students about international affairs.

"The International Affairs Society was dedicated to the promotion of a better understanding and general awareness of international affairs as they concerned the students of GW," Chairman Jeremy Ilouliau said.









GW TRAiLS

When visiting GW, applicants and their parents often remarked on the lack of greenery on campus. While many would consider GW's location to be one of its strengths, students still wanted to get off campus on occasion. GW TRAiLS offered both undergraduate and graduate students an escape from GW's urban setting. From mountain hikes to white water rafting, TRAiLS organized a variety of outdoor excursions that let students get in touch with nature.

"Our goal was to give students an adventure outside of GW's Foggy Bottom campus," TRAiLS member Jennifer Vitek said. "We were basically a

bunch of students dedicated to experiencing the outdoors."

TRAiLS often provided student groups the opportunity to get to know each other through team-building excursions. In the fall, TRAiLS and GW Housing Programs organized an apple-picking trip. International students took part in city-centered trips to get to know D.C. Members also worked with Food Justice Alliance to cultivate the H Street GroWth garden. Through these initiatives, TRAiLS contributed to GW's community service tradition.



One Step Forward

Balance and Capital Funk shared their passion for dance

As the only student organization on campus that focused on ballet, GW Balance formed a unique, supportive community of ballet dancers and enthusiasts. Founded in 2004, they provided their members with the opportunity to perform regardless of their experience and technique level while striving to find the perfect balance of classical and contemporary ballet. They also gave every dancer the opportunity to choreograph their own routines.

"Besides having the largest and youngest membership ever, we have put on some of our highest quality performances," President Michelle Suarez said. "This year we have really refined and solidified our group mission."

The group hosted a variety of programs throughout the year including the traditional Nutcracker and Learning

in Motion, which featured dancers from Mundo Verde Elementary School.

Describing themselves as a "big dysfunctional family, bonded by their love of food, sneakers, music and dance," Capital Funk aimed to promote and foster a community of hip hop culture in addition to providing their dancers with ample educational training and challenges.

Supporting each other both on and off stage, Capital Funk formed a close-knit family of dancers striving to practice, share and spread their love of dance.

Founded in 2004, Capital Funk hosted a number of exciting events throughout the year such as their annual showcase Funk Academy, as well as participated in various on-campus, regional and East Coast competitions.



Besides having the largest and youngest membership ever, we have put on some of our highest quality performances.

Michelle Suarez, President of GW Balance

Change We Can Believe In

The Student Association made significant improvements to student life

Finding a job could be an overwhelming and exhausting experience, but the Student Association (SA) made the process a bit easier by helping to improve career services advising at GW. Starting in 2012, career services faced an intensive overhaul. The multimillion-dollar investment went toward increasing staff and resources and creating a new management system to interact with potential employers. The SA also worked to reduce the cost of valuable services offered by the University.

"Altogether we saved students close to a quarter of a million dollars in fee reductions this year,

most notably the elimination of the University's Counseling Center fee," President John Richardson said.

In 2012, the Student Association gave students the chance to participate in the organization's projects and decision-making. G-Voice, an online tool that allowed students to vote on proposals and express their own ideas, helped the SA's executive board focus their attention on the most important issues on campus. This ability to interact with students ultimately made the SA a significant advocate for students throughout the GW community.





❖ Initiatives for the 2011-2012 Academic Year

Eliminated University
Counseling Fees
Cleared Up University
Policy On Tailgating
Improved Campus
Recruiting

Reduced University Printing
Fees
Allocated Money to Student
Organizations

Increased SA Office
Capacity
Improved Gelman
Automated 4-Ride system



RHA SPONSORED EVENTS

- Martha's Marathon
- Target Takover

CLASS COUNCIL EVENTS

- Welcome Week
- Freshman Feast

A Voice For The People

Residence Hall
and Class Council
advocated for
students' interests

For students trying to sleep or study in their residence halls, the din of jackhammers and clamor of construction workers was a little more than a nuisance. In 2012, the Residence Hall Association (RHA) worked to improve the lives of residents living near campus construction by collaborating with administrators and other student organizations. This initiative and others made the RHA one of the most respected student organizations on campus. Representing over 7,000 on-campus residents, the RHA played a key role in the health and happiness of students throughout the GW community.

"The RHA grew significantly as a campus-wide advocate for student life this year, making its commitment to support residents affected by campus construction chief among its advocacy initiatives," President Matt Galewski said. "Through these efforts and more,

the RHA continued to redefine campus living."

Class Council promoted interaction among students by hosting social and educational events throughout the year. Student representatives from each class welcomed opinions from students outside of the organization and planned events based on students' needs. By providing students with the opportunity to interact with each other, Class Council hoped to foster unity among members of the student body.

"This year Class Council faced many challenges," President Jonathan Read said. "The Council's ability to overcome those challenges, stay positive and stand united was extremely rewarding for the group. Class Council was in a very strong strategic position to move forward and continue its mission."



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

GREEN GRADUATE PLENGE

pledge to explore
and take into

account the social
environmental

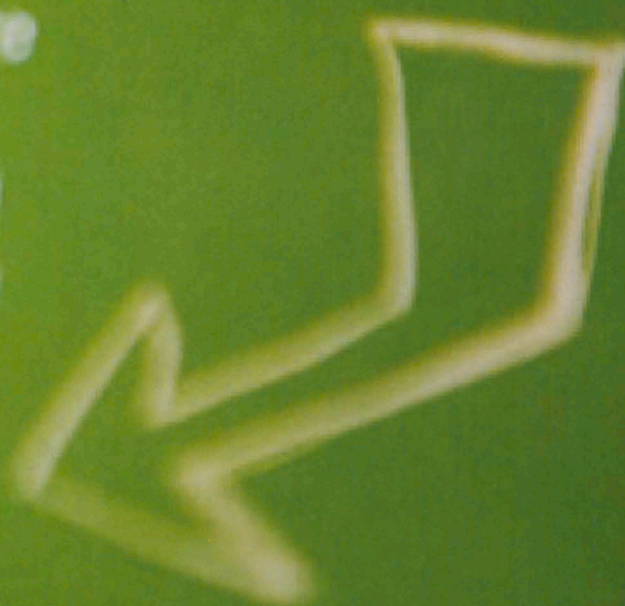
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the future of our
society and the

world we live in

”



Healthy Choices

Activist groups looked out for students' wellbeing

During the spring semester, students living in residence halls around campus found condoms next to the chips in the vending machines. Their sudden appearance was not a result of a practical joke, but rather an initiative spearheaded by Voices for Choices (VFC) and several other organizations to give students easier access to protection. In a partnership with Sir Richard's Condom Company, VFC also donated 500,000 condoms to Haiti. These projects made Voices for Choices a powerful advocate for men and women at GW and beyond.

"VFC was the only pro-choice and sexual health advocacy group on campus, representing those in favor of reproductive health freedom and women's rights," President Shireen Shakouri said. "We also had influence in the broader D.C. community, taking part in clinic escorting through Washington Area Clinic Defense Task Force and Planned Parenthood of Metro-Washington."

Like VFC, Green GW made its presence known on campus by carrying out initiatives to improve student life. In 2012, the organization helped organize Meatless Mondays at J Street, which encouraged students to go meatless by offering a wealth of vegetarian options. Starting in the fall, members offered a light bulb trade in, in which students could exchange their incandescent light bulbs for CFL bulbs. Green GW also hosted the Trashion Show, a fashion show featuring outfits made of reused and recycled materials. Members hoped these projects would create a culture of environmental awareness at GW.

"Our goal was to make being 'green' in an urban, college setting as easy as possible," President Isabelle Riu said. "We wanted to continue to try to involve every type of student."

Solar Panels on Campus





STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS

- 2012 Graduate Award for Individual Excellence | Brooke Stein
- 2012 Honey Nashman Spark A Life Award for Faculty Member of the Year | Dr. Lynda Maddox
- 2012 House Leader of the Year Award | Stephanie Anderson
- 2012 House Staff Member of the Year Award | Justin Woods
- 2012 Joint Committee of Faculty and Students Scholarship for Undergraduate Student Leadership Development | Caroline Gizem Tunca
- 2012 Joint Committee of Faculty and Students Scholarship for Undergraduate Student Leadership Development | Catherine Betancourt
- 2012 Joint Committee of Faculty and Students Scholarship for Undergraduate Student Leadership Development | Trevor Rockhill
- 2012 Joint Committee of Faculty and Students Scholarship for Undergraduate Student Leadership Development | Cameron Tucker
- 2012 Joint Committee of Faculty and Students Scholarship for



Undergraduate Student Leadership Development | Danielle Moore

2012 Learning Through Action Award | AIESEC

2012 Manatt-Trachtenberg Prize | Victoria Hartman

2012 Marc A. Zambetti Award | Nick Giovacchini

2012 Mount Vernon Award | Alyssa Abraham

2012 Outstanding Student Service Award | Isabel Parilis

2012 Outstanding Student Service Award | Alpha Phi Omega

2012 Program Board Event of the Year Award | Trick-or-Treat for Service

2012 Pyramid Award for Student Organization of the Year | Active Minds at George Washington University

2012 Pyramid Award for Student Organization of the Year | GW Students Against Sexual Assault

2012 Pyramid Award for Student Organization of the Year | South Asian Society

2012 Spark A Life Award for Staff Member of the Year | Meredith Laurie

2012 Student Employee of the Year Award | Alex Weller

2012 Students' Choice for Performance Group of the Year | Capital Funk

2012 Wall of Fame Award | Hugo Scheckter

2012 Wall of Fame Award | Courtney Oddman

2012 Wall of Fame Award | Dylan Pyne

2012 Wall of Fame Award | Anthony Bellmon

2012 Wall of Fame Award | Eric Gutierrez

2012 Walter G. Bryte, Jr. Achievement Award | Youth Charge Now GW

Embracing Our Differences

ASA & BSU welcomed diversity on campus

With so many students studying the Arab world in their classes, the Arab Student Association (ASA) saw the need to create a community for Arab and non-Arab students outside the classroom. Instead of listening to a lecture in the Elliot School, students were able to experience Arab culture firsthand by attending Hafla (the organization's annual party), seeing presentations on Arab art and culture and networking at events around Washington. ASA members encouraged students of all backgrounds to join the organization, as it was a chance to support both the Arab community on campus and in the D.C. community.

"We were very fortunate to live in a city with a great deal of outside support for the Arab American community," Outreach Chair Ben Hamd said. "ASA aimed to build connections with a variety of NGOs and Arab lobbying groups to better support the Arab community in Washington D.C."

In 2012, the Black Student Union (BSU) hoped to revitalize the organization by hosting new events that encouraged solidarity within GW's black community. Black Now, Black Proud was a week-long event hosted in November that centered on finding solutions to the issues facing the black community. Members also organized the Black Heritage Celebration, in which students volunteered for community service events such as the Stomp Out Sickle Cell Walk and the HIV/AIDS Walk. BSU hoped to bring attention to the black community by holding events that emphasized education and service.

"A part of our mission statement was to spread awareness and educate the larger GW community about black issues," Director of Community Service Jasmine Stovall said. "The main way we accomplished that this year was through the Black Heritage Celebration."





Engineering the Future

Student engineers made a difference at home and abroad

The members of Engineers Without Borders put their engineering skills to good use by developing and implementing small-scale infrastructure projects in disadvantaged communities around the world. In 2012, the organization designed compost latrines to install in El Salvador. This initiative was one of many intended to aid residents of villages in need. By helping these villages become technologically stable, the members of Engineers Without Borders became an integral part of the international community.

"The organization gave students the opportunity to get to know people one-on-one within the towns or villages that the organization visited," Fundraising Chair Rhianon Scanlon said. "I felt that no organization that was listed on campus provided such an experience for students."

Though small, the GW chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) positively impacted the community through various service initiatives. Members of the GW chapter also advised high school chapters of NSBE through pre-college initiatives at School Without Walls and elsewhere. NSBE welcomed students of all backgrounds to join the organization, as it was an opportunity to participate in community service and meet students with similar interests.

"Our chapter was indiscriminate of its members," President Marian Ackun said. "You did not have to be black and you did not have to be an engineer to join NSBE. We had a lot of non-black and non-engineering majors in our society, even on the Executive Board. It was a great way to network."







THE DREAM TEAM

The Admissions Department was served by three outstanding students

Work was a part of every GW student's life, whether it was in the form of academics, extracurriculars, athletics or any combination of the three. Many students also chose to take a job, in addition to their school-related activities, just in case their schedules weren't packed enough already. Aside from the vast employment opportunities that D.C. offered, the University provided an extensive range of student jobs that were essential to its growth and development. Though it was not unusual to encounter students who successfully juggled a student job with their other responsibilities, seniors Cameron Dux, Alex Weller and Lauren Jacobson stood out in the crowd.

Dux, Weller and Jacobson met when they were hired as Admissions Assistants during their freshman years, and have been some of each other's best friends ever since. From then on, they followed nearly identical career paths with the University. They worked as tour guides through the STAR program, presented at dozens of information sessions, were part of a select group of 30 Senior Interviewers chosen to interview prospective students for admission into the University, and also completed the Admissions Internship Program during which they read and evaluated



prospective student's applications. "When a student's eyes light up while talking about something they really care about, it shows me they'll fit right in with GW's active student body," Weller said.

As if this wasn't enough, all three served as Admissions Assistant Supervisors, and were in charge of 85 paid student workers in the Admissions Office during their junior and senior years.

"I was intrigued by the college admissions process and wanted to learn more about 'the other side,'" Dux said of his initial interest in student employment. "The students who work for the University develop this special bond with GW that allows them to advocate on behalf of the school, whether they are paid or not, because they care about the value of their degree and the students who choose to attend GW long after they are gone," he said.

Jacobson, who additionally worked as the VIP summer program coordinator during the summer of 2011, found her undergraduate work experience to be highly influential in her potential career path. "I hope to one day work in higher education and work in admissions," she said. "I don't think I would have ever considered this as a career path without the amazing experiences I've had."

Incredibly, Dux, Weller, and Jacobson have also had extensive work experience outside the University's admissions office. Jacobson served as the president of Delta Phi Epsilon, the professional international affairs sorority and also undertook two internships with Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio and the American Red Cross during her time at GW. As an engineering student, Weller worked at several engineering firms in New York and frequently helped out with SEAS open houses. Finally, Dux completed three internships during his undergraduate career including one with NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg's Office of Federal Affairs in D.C., and another with the United States Department of Justice.

The work experience of these three seniors throughout their four years as undergraduate students not only proved the notoriously ambitious nature of GW students, but also demonstrated the existence of a wealth of employment opportunities provided by the University for its undergraduate population and the University's reliance on such students as Dux, Weller and Jacobson.

A Day In the Life: Freshman

Balancing fun and taking advantage of all D.C. had to offer while staying on top of schoolwork was at the core of freshman daily life. All freshmen endured University Writing, dined at J Street

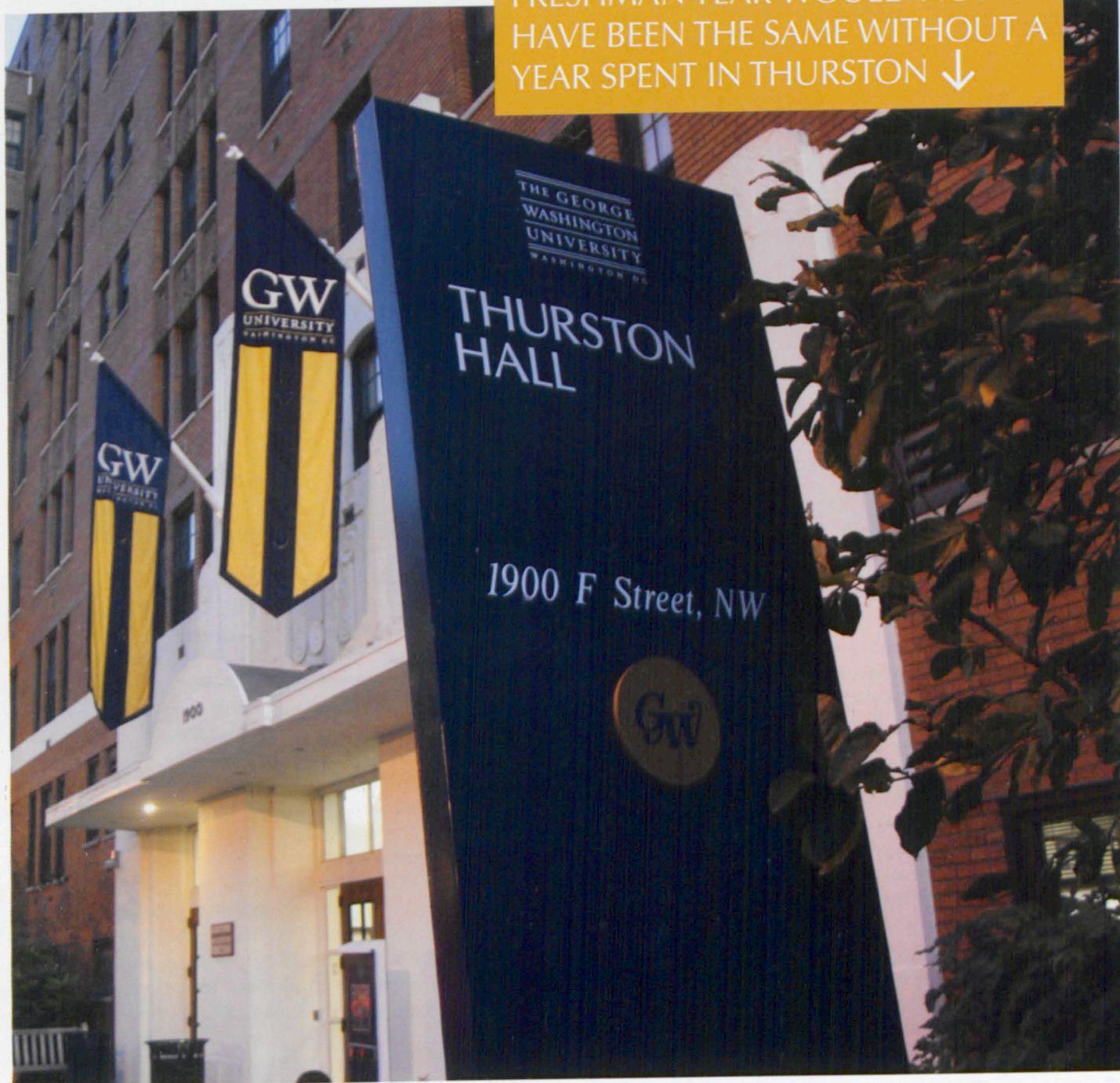
religiously and studied for their first midterms. In the 2011-2012 school year we had Freshman Day of Service on Sept. 11th, which represented an opportunity for the freshman class to come together

as a whole outside the GW community. Hot spots for freshmen were Georgetown, Townhouse Row and the sports events at the Smith Center.

❖ Jillian Busch '12

SEPTEMBER

FRESHMAN YEAR WOULD NOT
HAVE BEEN THE SAME WITHOUT A
YEAR SPENT IN THURSTON ↓



{ Freshman year was all about making life-long friends, finding out what your interests were and having fun! }

ENROLLED IN A
UNIVERSITY WRITING
CLASS ↓

MAY

THE GENEROUS AMOUNT OF
DINING DOLLARS MADE THE
VERN AND J-STREET APPEALING
OPTIONS ↓



Common freshman mistakes:

- Entering on the wrong side of Gelman
- Forgetting to sign friends into residence halls
- Studying from 2 a.m. to 7 a.m.
- Paying for a date with GWorld

A Day In the Life: Sophomore



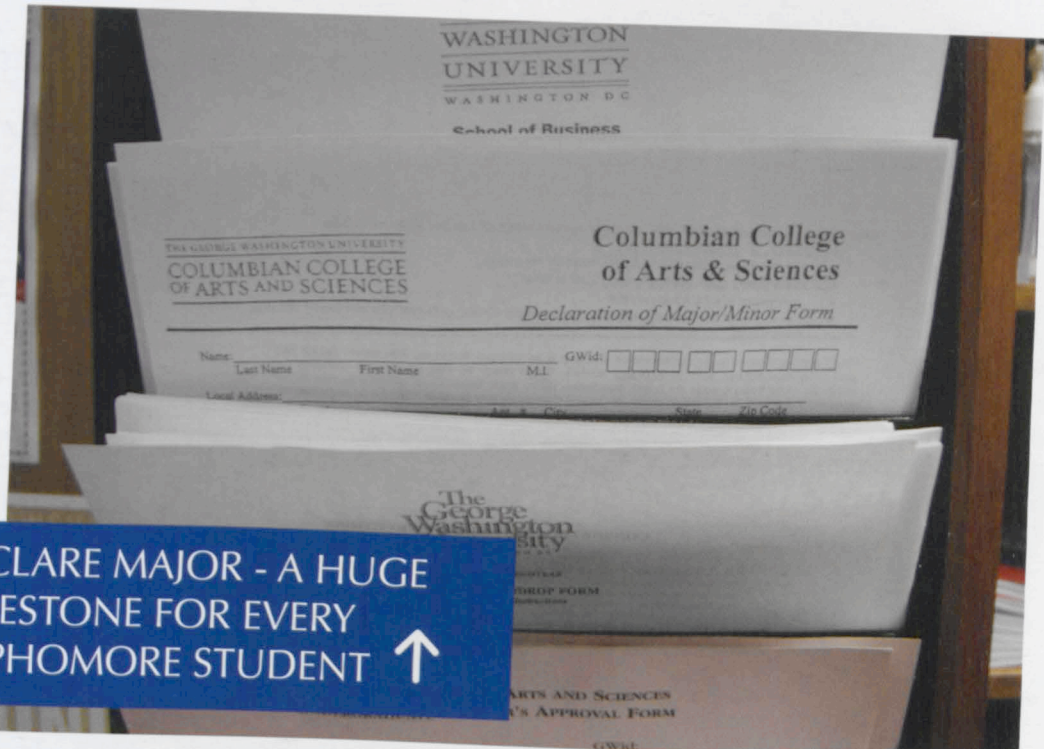
START YOUR FIRST INTERNSHIP
AT GW, A GOOD LESSON IN
TIME MANAGEMENT!



SEPTEMBER


MOVE INTO A DORM WITH
YOUR GOOD FRIENDS FROM
FRESHMAN YEAR





DECLARE MAJOR - A HUGE
MILESTONE FOR EVERY
SOPHOMORE STUDENT ↑

MAY



ATTEMPT TO FINISH
UP THE LAST OF YOUR
DINING DOLLARS FROM
FRESHMAN YEAR ←



It was such a great feeling moving back on campus in August to see so many familiar faces. I enjoyed taking more advanced classes in the Elliott School and really being able to get involved both on and off campus.

Natalie Fiszer '14



Much of my sophomore year was shaped by living in Building JJ. All of the residents were sophomores and it was great to have a community of friends nearby. I was able to keep the open door policy that you find in Thurston, but on a smaller, more manageable scale with close friends.

Rayna Bagchi '14

A Day In the Life: Junior

Junior year was when everything came together in a cacophonous, unorganized way. You started to have an understanding about the direction you wanted to go, and you were slowly building up to it. There was no definite road map, no simple Google Maps guidelines, but you started to

understand yourself and that it would be okay to possibly get off at the wrong exit, because you still had time to make it back to the main highway. Your relationships grew, solidified and matured along with you. There was always the possibility of new experiences junior year – you could

choose to travel abroad and discover new cultures, different ideas and explore your mind.

Your physical location did not matter, because the pieces fell into place during junior year, regardless of whether you were in Foggy Bottom or in a foreign country.



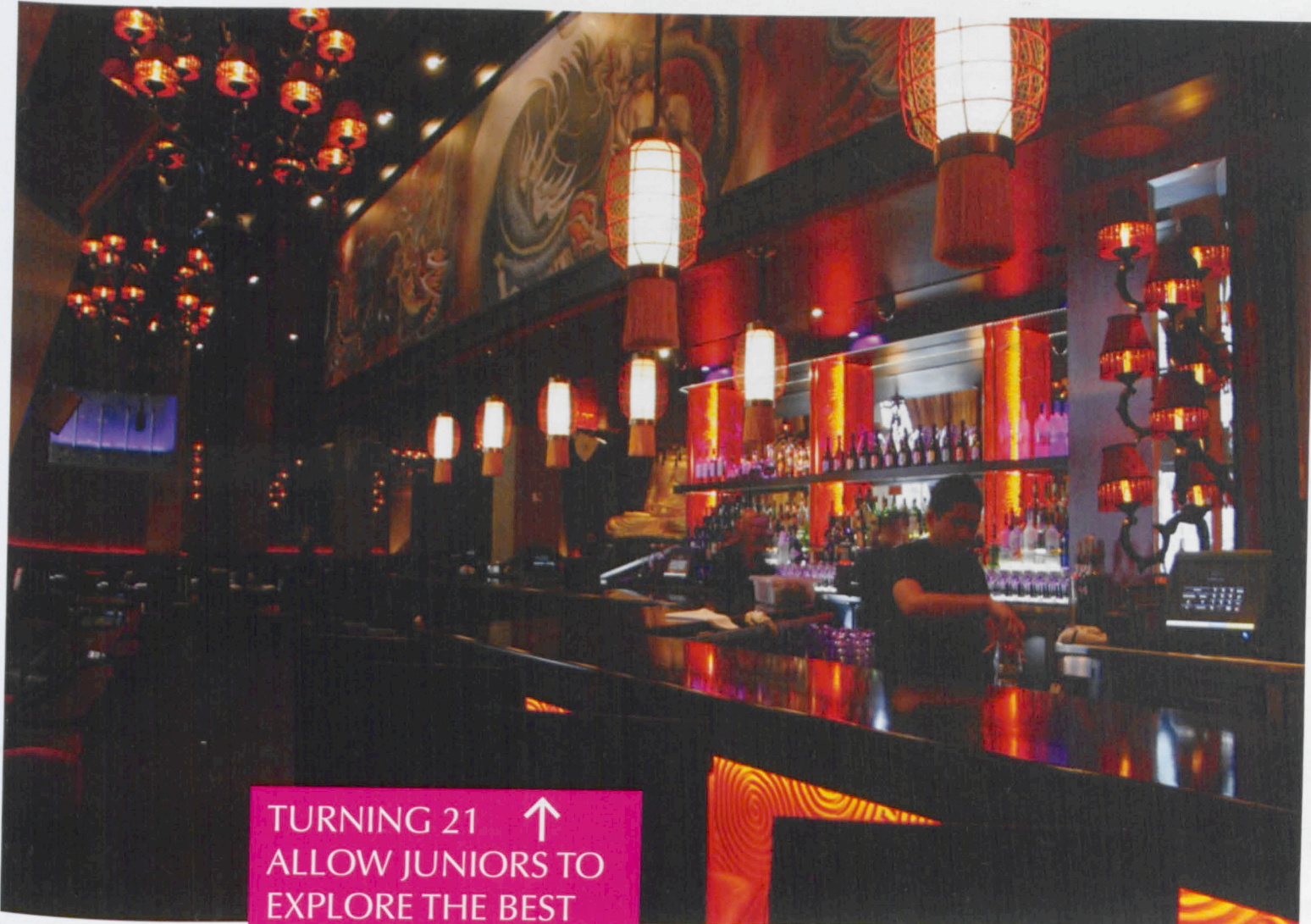
MOVING OFF CAMPUS ↑

SEPTEMBER

STUDY ABROAD →



{The experiences of junior year, of creating and metamorphosing
of who you were going to be, was the most important part.}



TURNING 21 ↑
ALLOW JUNIORS TO
EXPLORE THE BEST
OF D.C.'S NIGHTLIFE

MAY



Junior year was significant in many ways. Having more classes in your major allowed you to develop relationships with your professors, and it was an exciting time of transition before senior year.

Devon Guralnick '13



A Day In the Life: Senior

Senior year marked the culmination of your academic career at the George Washington University. It was filled with fun and excitement and tinged with fear and anxiety about what the future would hold for all in the post-grad world. It was a time for friendships and decisions. It was whirlwind year that went by faster than anyone could have possibly imagined.

Degrees were completed, theses were written and countless adventures were had. Whether it was cramming in the library, networking at a career fair or partying in South Hall and McFaddens, senior year will forever be remembered as the defining moment of your GW experience.

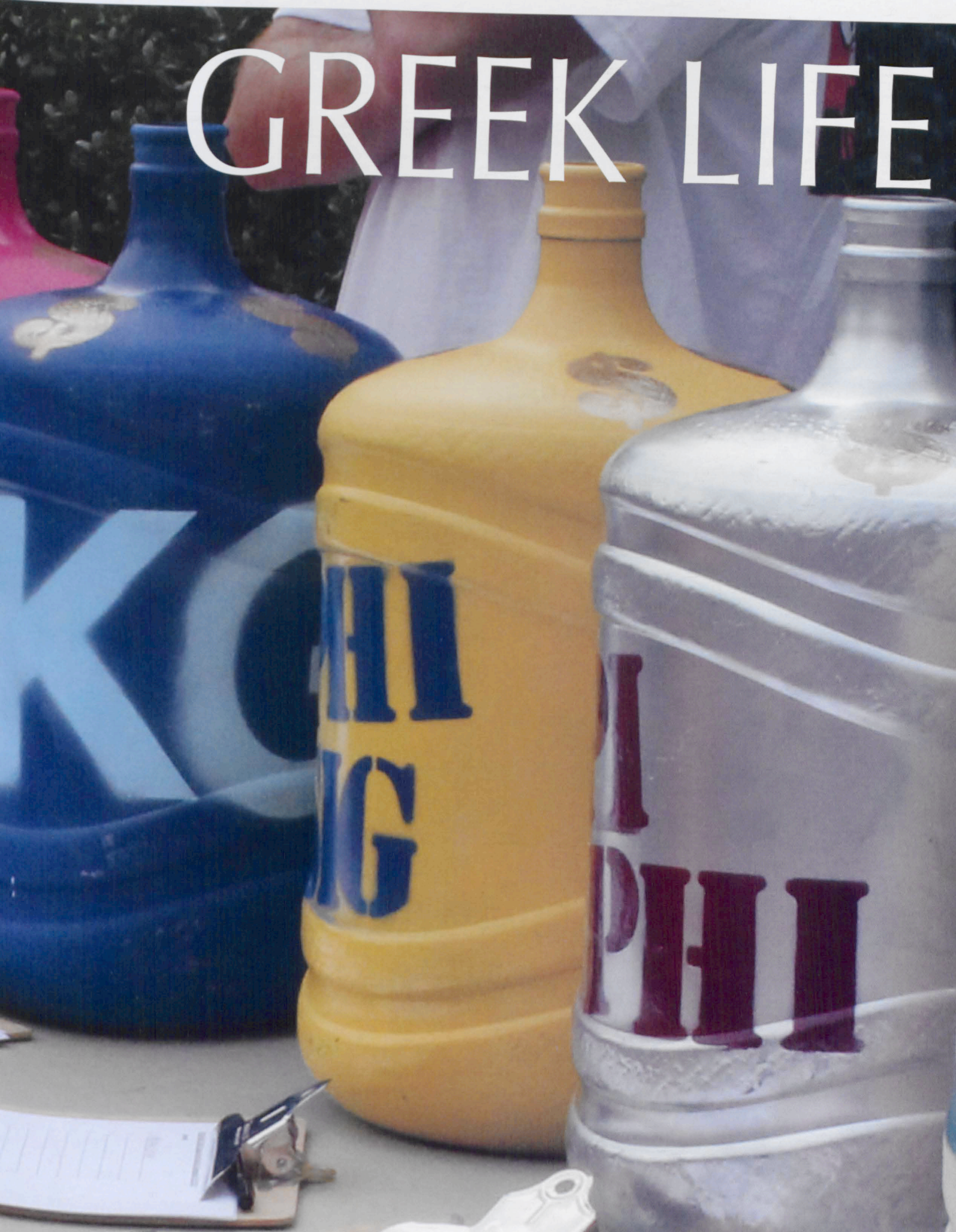




Senior Year Hangouts



GREEK LIFE





Somewhere To Come Home

Greek chapters received
new housing



Following the the house dedication that took place on Sept. 17, 2012, Delta Tau Delta and Sigma Chi were able to officially call a townhouse their home.

In addition to individual townhouses, the sorority Phi Sigma Sigma and the fraternities Phi Kappa Psi and Sigma Chi also received new housing on Townhouse Row to utilize for everything from meetings to alumni events.

"Phi Sigma Sigma was proud to call Townhouse Row our brand new and gorgeous home!" President Laura Riegler said. "Not only did we use our house as the perfect hangout

spot after classes, but we also held several events in our home including chapter meetings, mixers and our annual alumni and parent brunches."

A common area to share and create memories was very important for chapters and Sigma Chi President S.J. Tilden hoped their new house would do just that.

"The house was in many ways representative of the strong bond we all shared as brothers and the lofty goals that we set and then achieved," Tilden said.





What's the Rush?

16 fraternities held rush events to recruit new members

With 17 chapters and 900 men governed by the Inter-fraternity Council, the Greek community has grown over the past couple of years to include 24% of the undergraduate population at GW. In order to recruit even more members, 16 chapters held rush events from Sept. 12 to Sept. 23.

Events ranged from casual dinners at the notorious Pizza I to invitation only events at the Colonials Club, an exclusive venue located courtside in the newly renovated Charles E. Smith Center. Although events differed, each was

designed around a common purpose—to provide an opportunity for potential new members to get to know the brothers of each fraternity in order to maintain a strong Greek community.

"The men who make up these fraternities are athletes, volunteers, and scholars," IFC President Frank Gervasio said. "They are men with class and character who use Greek life and their fraternities to improve themselves, and to make the most of what the George Washington University has to offer."



Bid Day

512 women added to
Greek Life Community

A record-breaking 715 women registered to participate in the 2011 Panhellenic Formal Recruitment. This year, several amendments were made to the recruiting process in order to ensure that the four-day recruitment weekend was successful and enjoyable for the Panhellenic community and the potential new members (PNMs).

PNMs attended 10 parties on the first night, seven on the second, five on the third and three on the final night. During each party PNMs were introduced to a different chapter on campus.

In 2011, 10 extra minutes were added between parties to accommodate water and bathroom breaks. Additionally, PNMs were able to attend three parties on the final night in



order to increase the number of women receiving bids. The recruitment counselor position, known as a Pi Rho Chi for the first time, was also taken much more seriously. Spring and fall retreats, dinners, hotel lodging and training sessions with the University Counseling Center were added so that Pi Rho Chis could bond as a group and be prepared for any questions or concerns PNMs might have. The changes proved successful. On bid day, 512 women accepted bids to join sororities, the largest new member class in the history of GW Panhellenic.

Something Happens Here

...But its all Greek to Me

"THIS IS SPARTA!" could be heard from anywhere on campus on Sunday Oct. 16, the opening night of Greek Week. Beginning with the Parade and Kickoff BBQ in U-Yard, each Greek Week team had the opportunity to debut their team name, their team colors and their team flag. Following the parade, all 10 teams: the Spartans, the Titans, Heilos, Glow Greek, Freaks and Greeks, Best of the West, Sailors and Sweethearts, Ninja Turtles, Team X, and Mardi Gras Masquerade, congregated in Square 80 for hot dogs and hamburgers.

Monday night's event was a Greek Week first—a black light kickball tournament. Teams competed all evening, with the Spartans defeating the Best of the West in the championship game. "This is an event we are trying for the first time and we are hoping that it will have as much success as it has had at the big state schools," IFC President Frank Gervasio said. "This is a great opportunity for teams to showcase their athletic abilities!"

The rest of the week unfolded with events such as the American Red Cross Blood Drive and a panel of speakers from Congress and other successful Greeks. A highlight of the week was Skit Night in Lisner Auditorium, which led up to Carnival Day in U-Yard on Friday and the Best Buddies 5K Race and Red Bull Chariot Races on Saturday. While the 5K race was not affiliated with Greek Week it was a great opportunity for teams to participate in community service. Red Bull sponsored the Chariot Races and each team raced as two team members pulled another team member around U-Yard in a homemade "chariot."

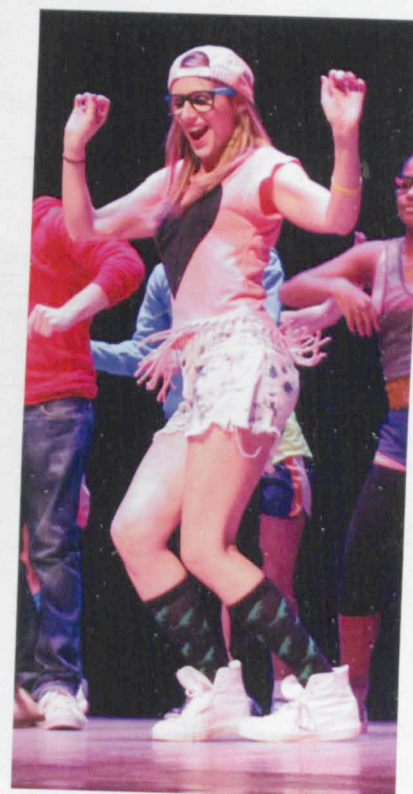
The winning team was announced at the Greek Grand Chapter meeting the following week. The Spartans, made up of Alpha Delta Pi, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Phi Sigma Kappa, Alpha Nu Omega, and Lambda Upsilon Lambda, were awarded the first place trophy, defeating the Titans by just three points.



Greek Week was a huge success this year. Participation was high from every Greek Chapter on campus.

Robin Shapiro '12





The Greek Games

Competition for Pikus Cup and Sorority Cup

Fraternities and sororities compete against each other in fraternity and sorority reserved intramural leagues to earn points towards the championship cups. Teams were registered by, and assembled with, active members of their respective Greek organizations.

At the end of the academic year, the sorority Alpha Delta Pi was declared the Sorority Cup champion based on the overall points it had accumulated. Points were awarded based on the team's place in the standings (only games against other sororities were counted towards points standings), the number of sorority teams in a league, and the division in which the event or league was classified.

Since 1984, fraternities at GW have competed against each other to become the Pikus Cup champion. Originally known as the Fraternity Cup, the award was renamed in the spring of 1999 to the Ken Pikus Memorial Award. Pikus, who was killed in a car accident in 1998, was instrumental in leading his fraternity to the championship in three of his four years at the University. Pikus' former fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha, was also the 2012 winner.

According to the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports, Brett Graskewitz, the most popular intramural sports were indoor soccer, basketball and volleyball. New sports were also introduced such as an area football tournament and an ultimate Frisbee tournament.

"The biggest difference in the intramural sports department this year has been to improve our sports in relation to the strategic plan announced earlier in the year for the Department of Athletics and Recreation," Graskewitz said. "Looking ahead to next year, we would have some exciting new processes planned to usher in a new era of intramural sports at GW!"





GREEK LEADERS

leading by example

Colonial Army

the GW student fan group for all GW varsity athletics

The Red Shoe Run for Donor Awareness

event held every April to celebrate National Donate Life Month, increase donations of organs, tissue, eye, blood and marrow and raise money.

GWSB Alliance

aims to provide career support, impart professional development and foster a sense of community for LGBT students within the GW School of Business

Washington Human Society

the only open-access shelter in the District that offers an array of dynamic programs and services; providing comfort and care to nearly 30,000 animals each year through public support

Autism Speaks U

a program designed to support college students in their awareness, advocacy and fundraising efforts directed towards Autism

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

each year, one week before Thanksgiving, National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness co-sponsor National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. During this week, a number of schools, communities, and cities take part in a nationwide effort to bring greater awareness to the problems of hunger and homelessness

STAND

this student-led division of the United to End Genocide envisions a world in which the international community protects civilians from genocidal violence by raising money through a dodge ball tournament held at GW

GW Students Against Sexual Assault (SASA)

provides GW with educational and supportive services related to sexual assault. Through programming events, guest speakers and awareness campaigns, SASA works to spread awareness about sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, sexual harassment and stalking

Teach for America at GW

a growing movement of leaders who work to ensure that kids growing up in poverty get an excellent education

Alternative Spring Break

empowers and challenges students, staff, and faculty to understand their relationship with global and local communities through direct service, education and reflection, all while encouraging personal growth, social awareness, and active citizenship

Health Leads

mobilizes college volunteers to connect patients and their families with the basic resources they need to be healthy. With Health Leads, doctors can "prescribe" resources such as food, housing and heating assistance—just as they do medication. Patients take their prescriptions to the clinic waiting room, where volunteers help "fill" them by connecting patients to community services

GW Program Board

the largest student-run programming organization at GW, which provides students with a diverse and engaging selection of lectures, concerts, films, rallies, fundraisers, festivals and other events



Greek Life here at GW has grown exponentially in the past few years. I believe one of the reasons for this is the involvement of the 44 Greek letter organizations and their members in almost all organizations on and off campus. Reaching out to the community and being involved is what Greek organizations strive to do and we continue trying to be as visible and involved on campus as we can.

Marta Cafone, Panhellenic President



GREEK EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Scholarship and Academics

IFC: Sigma Phi Epsilon

Panhellenic: Sigma Kappa and Chi Omega

MGC: Kappa Phi Lambda

Gold Chapters: Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Phi, Pi Beta Phi, Pi Delta Psi, Zeta Beta Tau

Silver Chapters: Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Gamma, Kappa Alpha Psi, Lambda Pi Chi, Pi Kappa Phi, Sigma Chi, Sigma Lambda Upsilon, Sigma Nu, Sigma Psi Zeta

Bronze Chapters: Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Sigma Sigma, Pi Kappa Alpha

Leadership

IFC: Phi Kappa Psi

Panhellenic: Phi Sigma Sigma

MGC: Kappa Phi Lambda

Gold Chapters: Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Chi Omega, Kappa Alpha Psi, Kappa Sigma, Lambda Pi Chi, Pi Beta Phi, Sigma Chi, Sigma Kappa, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Sigma Psi Zeta,

Silver Chapters: Delta Gamma, Sigma Lambda Upsilon, Pi Delta Psi,



Pi Kappa Alpha, Pi Kappa Phi, Zeta Beta Tau, Zeta Phi Beta,
Bronze Chapters: Alpha Epsilon Pi, Delta Sigma Theta, Sigma
Delta Tau, Sigma Nu,

Member Development

IFC: Pi Kappa Alpha
Panhellenic: Phi Sigma Sigma
MGC: Lambda Pi Chi
Gold Chapters: Alpha Delta Pi, Chi Omega, Delta Gamma,
Kappa Phi Lambda, Pi Beta Phi, Pi Kappa Phi, Sigma Chi, Sigma
Kappa, Sigma Psi Zeta
Silver Chapters: Alpha Epsilon Pi, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Alpha Phi,
Kappa Alpha Psi, Phi Kappa Psi, Pi Delta Psi, Sigma Phi Epsilon,
Zeta Beta Tau,
Bronze Chapters: Delta Sigma Theta, Kappa Sigma, Sigma
Lambda Upsilon,

Service and Philanthropy

IFC: Sigma Chi
Panhellenic: Chi Omega

MGC: Alpha Kappa Alpha

Gold Chapters: Kappa Phi Lambda, Lambda Pi Chi, Phi Sigma
Sigma

Silver Chapters: Alpha Delta Pi, Beta Theta Pi, Delta Sigma Theta,
Kappa Sigma, Pi Beta Phi,

Bronze Chapters: Delta Gamma, Kappa Alpha Psi, Phi Kappa Psi,
Pi Delta Psi, Pi Kappa Phi, Sigma Kappa

Overall

IFC Chapter of the Year: Sigma Chi

Panhellenic Chapter of the Year: Chi Omega

MGC Chapter of the Year: Kappa Phi Lambda

Gold Chapters: Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Phi Sigma
Sigma, Pi Beta Phi, Sigma Kappa

Silver Chapters: Delta Gamma, Delta Sigma Theta, Kappa Alpha
Psi, Kappa Sigma, Phi Kappa Psi, Pi Delta Psi, Sigma Psi Zeta,
Zeta Beta Tau

Bronze Chapters: Alpha Epsilon Pi, Alpha Phi, Pi Kappa Alpha, Pi
Kappa Phi, Sigma Lambda Upsilon, Zeta Phi Beta

Home Sweet Home

Greeks Signed Decade Long Housing Contracts

In 2009, Greek chapters signed three-year housing leases, which expired in May 2012. In the spring, GW extended the lease on Greek housing from three years to 10 years in hopes that the change will spur organizations to invest more into the properties.

"Now we're saying, 'If you treat the house well, it's yours for 10 years,'" Director of the Center for Student Engagement Tim Miller said in an article in the Hatchet.

GW sought to encourage chapters to think long-term about their housing situations and to relieve the stress of competing for houses. 23 chapters leased space on campus this year,

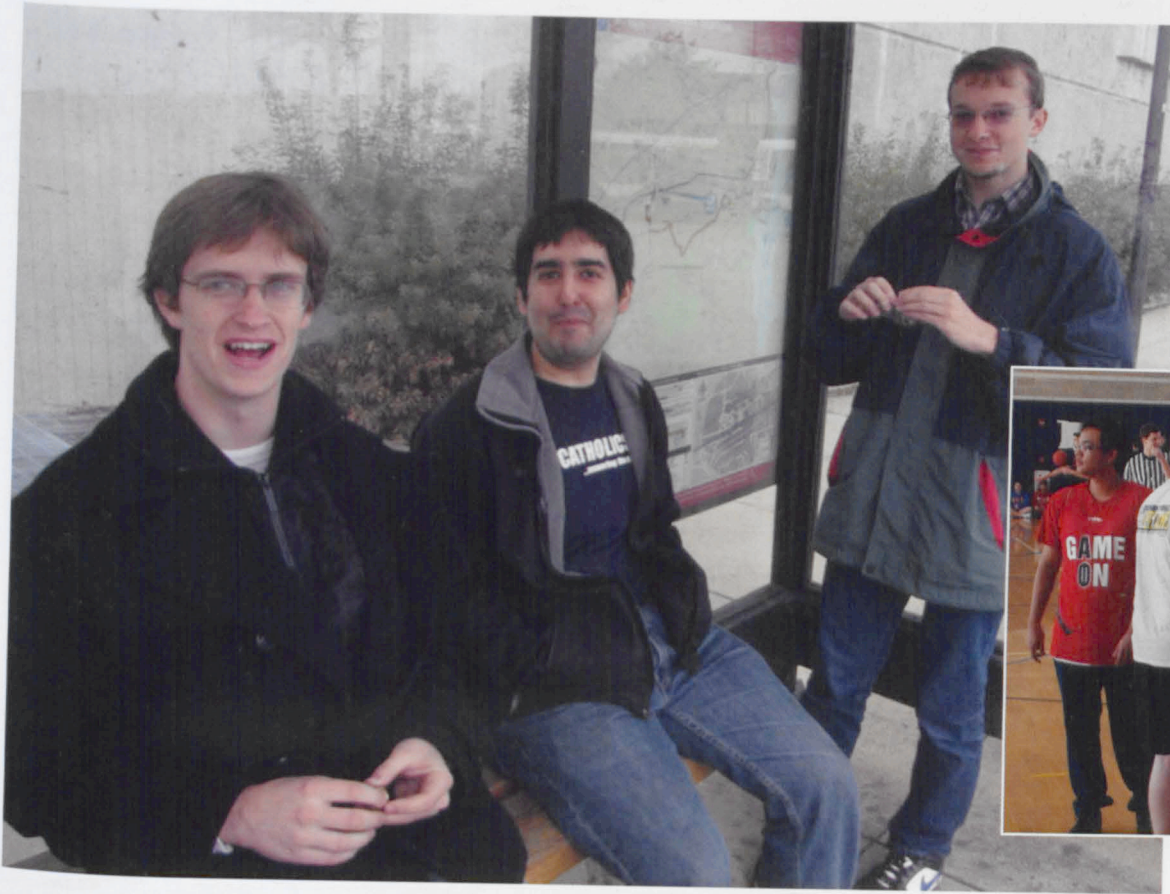
14 of which resided in on-campus townhouses. All Greek chapters, even those that did not already have housing on Townhouse Row, were able to apply. As for the two sororities that lived in Strong Hall, they were given the option to sign the extended leases, yet Greek residents of International house will continue to be adjusted on a year-to-year basis.

While CSE was still discussing what additions or adjustments a chapter could make to a GW property, it was decided that the chapters themselves would be responsible for funding these changes. The new leases were to go into effect until 2022.





Sigma Nu



Sigma Nu was founded on the principles of love, honor and truth. The brothers excelled with honor by helping the local D.C. community, as well as by participating in their national organization's Helping Hand Initiative. The Helping Hand Initiative consisted of two primary components: Founders' Week of Service, and the Helping Hand Partners. The Helping Hand Partners included CHARACTER COUNTS!, Habitat for Humanity and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, three philanthropic and service-based organizations.

"Our chapter formed a team to run in the Cherry Blossom 10-mile run held in April to raise money and awareness for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital," President John Black said.

The chapter's philanthropic efforts also reached further than the Helping Hand Initiative with their annual fall event, The Rock Challenge, which raised money for the Susan G. Komen Foundation for breast cancer awareness. The Rock Challenge was a series of competitions for sororities at GW designed to bring awareness to breast cancer.

"Our fraternity welcomed all men who feel they are looking for a different collegiate experience and would benefit from becoming members of our brotherhood," Black said.

Excelling with Honor



Pi Kappa Phi



Pi Kappa Phi's national philanthropy was PUSH America, an organization created to educate and provide a quality hands-on service experience for members of Pi Kapp while enhancing the lives of people with disabilities. Since Pi Kapp arrived on campus in 2002 they have continued to raise money for PUSH America with its annual fall event, War of the Roses.

"This year, like years past, we relied on the strong support of our beautiful sororities, our families and friends and our alumni, who haven't forgotten the most important part of being lifelong brothers," PUSH America co-chairman Brian Steele said. "War of the Roses is always a success, and we hoped that this year would be no different."

The weeklong event began with a Penny Wars competition and a Campus Fresh fundraiser.

The following day a Sports and Spa Night was held in U-Yard where participants joined Pi Kapp and the GW Best Buddies in welcoming dozens of local students with disabilities. Sorority girls gave makeovers while Pi Kapp brothers hosted sports games for the attendees.

The week culminated with a Skit Night and a Flag Football Tournament on the fields at 23rd and Constitution. While Chi Omega came out victorious, PUSH America really won, as a total of \$15,838 was raised for the organization; \$3,942 of that coming from friends and family of Pi Kapp.

“Nothing shall ever tear us asunder”



Through mechanical bull riding, sumo wrestling and gladiator fighting, Alpha Epsilon Pi's Color War raised money for their seven national philanthropies. However unlike any other philanthropy event at GW, AEPi Color War also benefited the 10 participating sororities' national philanthropies.

"Basically, we took a traditional American camp event and brought it to Foggy Bottom campus," Philanthropy Co-Chair Sam Newton said.

The three-day event began with a BBQ cookout and a mechanical bull in University Yard and ended with an event dedicated to inflatable games and relays. Overall, Color War raised a total of \$8,000.

Delta Gamma took home first place and received the prize of a \$1,000 donation to their national philanthropy, the Delta Gamma Foundation's Service For Sight Grants. Alpha Epsilon Phi came in second place and was awarded a \$300 donation and Alpha Phi won third place and was awarded a \$200 donation. The other sororities that participated each received a \$50 donation to their philanthropies of choice, which ranged from the Ronald McDonald House Charities to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"AEPi Color War will now become an annual tradition," Newton concluded.

*No one could tell me where my soul might be; I searched for God,
but he eluded me; I sought my brother out and found all three.*



Kappa Sigma

Inviting 31 new members to be part of the fall 2011 pledge class nearly doubled the size of Kappa Sigma. Kappa Sigma held more brotherhood events in order to "maintain that small group feeling," Matt Pergamo, President of GW's Alpha-Eta chapter, said.

One of these events was a midnight pancake breakfast held outside of Strong Hall with the sorority Pi Beta Phi in order to raise money for Camp Kesem. Camp Kesem is a summer camp for children who have a parent who is undergoing cancer treatment or has died of cancer.

"The idea came from our philanthropy chair who is involved with Camp Kesem," Pergamo explained.

The event was a huge success. By selling pancakes for \$5 per person, Kappa Sigma and Pi Phi were able to raise \$1,200 for Camp Kesem.

During the 68th biennial conclave, a national celebration of Kappa Sigma accomplishments in chapters around the country, the Alpha-Eta chapter at GW won an Outstanding Brother's In Action award for both active brothers and for pledges. The award highlighted Kappa Sigma's philanthropic efforts as well as their effort to pass the ideals of the fraternity on to new members.



“Fellowship, leadership, scholarship, service.”



Sigma Chi



Originally created as just a fundraising skit night, Sigma Chi chapters across the country quickly adopted the concept of Derby Days, transforming it into a weeklong philanthropic event. The GW chapter demonstrated the three basic principles of their brotherhood: friendship, justice and learning, by raising money for the Children's National Medical Center, D.C.'s local Children's Miracle Network Hospital and Sigma Chi's national philanthropy.

During Derby Days, all 10 sororities at GW competed against one another to see who could raise the most money.

"While competing against other sororities, you are also helping save lives," Sigma Chi Derby Days Chair Hunter Pritchard said. "Derby Days 2011 hopes to exceed last year's fundraising efforts to be donated to this great organization."

Several events were held throughout the week, such as a Penny Wars competition, the Sign-a-Sig contest in which participants were supposed to sign any member of Sigma Chi they saw during the day and the brother auction, all helped to raise money for the organization. The highlight of the week was the Rap Video Show, which screened raps that each team had been working on all week.

The week ended with the annual Derby in U-Yard. The Sigma Chi Derby hosted everything a typical derby would from a mechanical bull, to a Derby Hat



Contest.

Since 1992, the Children's Miracle Network has benefited from this event, receiving over \$4.2 million in donations.

"Above the excitement, competition and entertainment of Derby Days, the main purpose is to raise money for the Children's National Medical Center," Pritchard said.

"In this sign you will conquer"



Sigma Phi Epsilon

This year, Sigma Phi Epsilon's national philanthropy event, SigEp Sweetheart Week, benefited the Washington Human Society (WHS). The WHS is the only Congressionally-chartered animal welfare agency in the United States and has been the area's leading voice for animals since 1870. With over 30,000 animals living in the shelter each year, SigEp directed their annual event to raise money for this organization.

The weeklong event in November commenced with "Paper for Puppies," which took place in Kogan Plaza. Participating sororities were encouraged to donate paper money for positive points, whereas coins counted for negative points. The week continued with the notorious Sweetheart Competition, where each participating sorority entered one sister to compete in a five round competition.

"I know a lot of sororities practiced like crazy," Philanthropy Chair Kyle Campbell said. "We had great events lined up....for the animals!"

A "So You Think You Can Dance?" competition took the place of the usual skit night and the week ended with the "Lost Dog Scavenger Hunt." During the scavenger hunt SigEp captains accompanied their teams around D.C. where participants learned where animals would go if they were homeless.

Sororities earned points for each event and in the end Sigma Delta Tau came out victorious with a total of 319,950 points. Alpha Phi came in second place with 284,500 points and Delta Gamma came in third place with 256,175 points.



Building balanced leaders for the world's community



Tau Kappa Epsilon



Tau Kappa Epsilon announced its new alliance with the Boy Scouts of America, not for wealth, rank or honor, but for personal worth and character. TKE, like the Boy Scouts, had positively impacted lives and built leaders for more than a century through various fundraisers, social events and brotherhood retreats.

"There was something special about the brotherhood you experienced by belonging to a fraternity – much like there's something special about that brotherhood you found in Scouting," Chief Scout Executive Robert Mazzuca said at the National Order of the Arrow Conference.

"That time in college was so crucial to a young person's future, and knowing that you could find others at your university who share the same values you developed through Scouting was extremely encouraging."

The members of TKE strengthened their brotherhood bonds by participating in Habitat for Humanity and supporting the Alzheimer's Association and the Boys Scouts of America. Events such as TKE Turkey Bowl raised money for these organizations.



“Love, Charity, Esteem”



Phi Kappa Psi

The philanthropic endeavors of Phi Kappa Psi ensured that the fraternity would “live ever, die never.” With the help of Kappa Alpha Psi and the College Republicans, Phi Psi hosted a weeklong event during the winter, called “Phi Psi for School Supplies,” that benefited Teach for America.

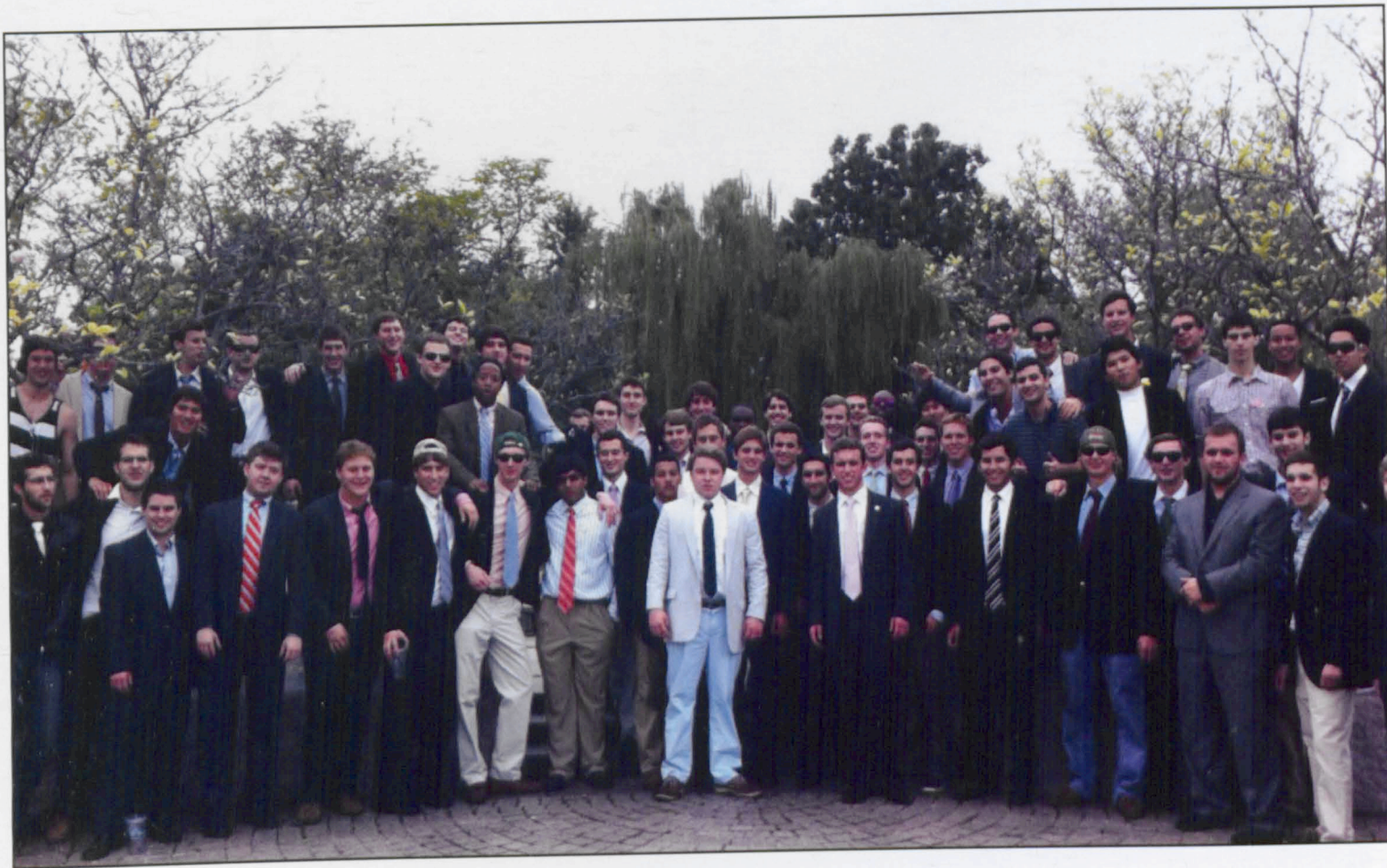
“Teach for America worked with college graduates who spent two years teaching in low-income communities,” Vice President Ben Clement said. “Its goal was to eliminate educational inequality.” The event consisted of a school supply drive held outside of the Phi Psi townhouse, the Marvin Center, Gelman and Ivory.

“As an incentive to participate, with each donation, you had the opportunity to send a candy cane gram to

anyone on campus, delivered by a brother of Phi Psi,” Clement said.

Along with donating school supplies, participants were also able to make a \$5 donation online to sponsor a child in a Teach for America classroom. The donation included one notebook, one box of pencils and one box of pens. A total of \$565 was raised just through this portal.

Last year, there were 31 GW graduates who were accepted into the Teach for America program. This year, GW set a goal to recruit over 50 teachers for the next year. Throughout the fall, the brothers of Phi Psi were focused on helping underprivileged students in the D.C. area, and this event worked to take their initiative to the national level.



“Live ever die never”



Delta Tau Delta

With over 60 members, the Gamma Eta chapter of Delta Tau Delta started out strong since its rechartering at GW in 2008. The chapter's goals were to strive for greatness in academics, athletics, leadership, philanthropy and campus involvement—and the goals were met.

DTD won both the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority's annual Diamond Heist philanthropy event, and the Sigma Delta Tau Sorority's SigDelt Soccer tournament. The chapter's philanthropic goals were accomplished through their winter philanthropy event, Delt the Halls, which benefited the Children's National Hospital, a pediatric center based in Washington, D.C.

The two-day event was promoted through a video created by DTD, which announced the components of the competition. First, there was a voice competition, and then there was a ginger bread house making competition in the chapter's house. Lastly, the brothers of DTD sang Christmas carols on the National Mall to spread holiday cheer.

As their creed affirmed, the Delts believed in DTD as an abiding influence to help them do work, fulfill their obligations, maintain their self-respect, bring about a life of happiness wherein they serve their country, and obey their God. The DTD brothers maintained these values through their four fundamental principles: truth, courage, faith and power.



*“Committed to lives of excellence labor
for the beautiful and the good”*

ZBT

Zeta Beta Tau

Since its founding in 1898 as the first Jewish fraternity in North America, Zeta Beta Tau has become "a powerhouse of excellence," and by winning three national awards at the ZBT International Convention, the Phi Alpha Alpha chapter at GW has continued this powerful tradition.

"It was with great pride and excitement that we announced that we have received these awards," Vice President Sean Lynch said. "With it being only our first year as a full-fledged chapter, this was a phenomenal feat. Every brother and alumni was to think for this achievement."

Although the chapter was the runner up for the outstanding

community service award, ZBT was dedicated to community service on GW's campus by hosting their annual "Get on the Ball" event.

"Get on the Ball" was designed to create a fun, worthwhile way of raising money for the Children's National Medical Center, the exclusive provider of pediatric care in the metropolitan Washington area, by rolling a ball six feet in diameter around campus to collect signatures.

"We were truly a special brotherhood, and we could not be more proud of our achievements. It was great to be a ZBT!"



“Powerhouse of excellence”



Averaging 16 hours of community service per brother in 2011, the Zeta Nu chapter of Beta Theta Pi at GW worked to improve upon that number in 2012, and just as their motto says, "Cooperation Makes Strength."

"This year we planned to continue breaking previous recruitment records, rediscover our values, develop positive pledge programming, activate our alumni base and grow closer than ever in brotherhood," President Colin O'Brien said.

Before the fall semester was even over, the brothers of Beta had already visited the D.C. Central Soup Kitchen, a service activity that required them to prepare meals for the area's homeless. The chapter also sponsored a Movember team, which raised both money and awareness for men's health, specifically prostate cancer and other cancers that affect men, by growing mustaches. A canned food drive which benefitted Martha's Table, a soup kitchen who's mission is to improve their lives of members of the D.C. community, also contributed to each brother earning an average of 16 service hours.

"To Zeta Nu, concepts of brotherhood and family were synonymous, so naturally we would be ecstatic to support an organization like this," O'Brien said.

In addition to participating in events throughout the D.C. community, Beta also hosted its annual spring philanthropy event, Beta Cup. Played on the National Mall every year, the Beta Cup Tournament was a philanthropy soccer tournament with teams from GW sororities that benefited a local D.C. organization chosen each year.

“Cooperation makes strength”



Pi Kappa Alpha

Rooted in the concept of what are known as the four pillars of PIKE: scholars, leaders, athletics and gentlemen, Pi Kappa Alpha strived to recruit well-rounded individuals who would benefit from the experiences and opportunities the fraternity had to offer. The pinnacle of the fraternity's efforts was their signature philanthropic endeavor, Fireman's Challenge.

Fireman's Challenge was a weeklong philanthropy event that benefitted the D.C. Firefighters' Burn Foundation. The events during the week included Pike Spike (a volleyball tournament), Feed the Firemen (an Iron Chef style cooking contest), a fire safety seminar, a skit night and a field day on University Yard.

"The event itself changed very little year to year, but what changed in 2012 was the enthusiasm the sorority members showed for the event," President Ben Winneg said. "Each year they seemed to get more and more excited and more and more competitive, and this year's participation really blew us away."

Members of PIKE, GW Panhellenic sororities and local firefighters participated in the event, and Sigma Kappa was the winner. Over \$64,000 was raised from a year's worth of fundraising, but the majority was raised during Fireman's Challenge week.

"We were only able to raise as much as we did because of the sororities' excitement for the event," Winneg said.



“Once a Pike always a Pike”



Phi Sigma Kappa

Founded at GW in 1899, the Lambda chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa worked to uphold its fraternal mission statement, which stressed the importance of bettering the individual, the university community and the world. To achieve its mission statement, the fraternity gave members opportunities to develop their leadership skills, participate in service to others, achieve academic excellence, experience cultural diversity and practice personal integrity. The members also took it upon themselves to connect with past and present brothers.

"PSK is a smaller, tightly-knit brotherhood, dedicated to the common good," GW senior and member Sam Hansen said. "Through our traditions and uniqueness we really were able to develop an extremely close sense of brotherhood."

Since many of the chapter's past members remained in the D.C. area upon graduating from GW, present members were able to connect intimately with their alumni, perhaps more so than any other fraternity on campus. Through these unique connections, alumni were able to pass on advice to current brothers about they could be effective both on and off GW's campus.

In 2012, Phi Sigma Kappa also witnessed the expansion of their brotherhood and they made vast improvements on the historic, centrally located on 21st and F in the heart of GW's campus.

"Only time will tell what the future has in store for the brothers of Phi Sigma Kappa," Hansen reflected. "Yet, I am confident that our brotherhood will remain strong for many years to come."



*“Do unto others as you would have them
do unto you”*



Alpha Phi



Since 1946, the sisters of Alpha Phi have focused on heart disease and cardiac care as a philanthropic priority—hand in hand. In order to contribute, the Iota Iota chapter of Alpha Phi at GW hosted an array of events to raise money for both causes.

During Colonials Weekend, the chapter hosted the Red Dress Gala, an opportunity for the sorority to roll out the red carpet and invite families and members of the community for an evening of auctions, entertainment and philanthropy. All of the proceeds went to the Alpha Phi Foundation. Another event held in the fall was Phi Ball, a fraternity dodge ball tournament.

In the spring, Alpha Phi hosted its annual weeklong event, Heart Week.

"Alpha Phi's Heart Week was a philanthropic event that aimed to raise awareness of cardiac disease, while raising money for the Alpha Phi Foundation, which directly contributed to grants for cardiac care and disease research," Director of Philanthropy Michaela Bethune said.

Throughout the week, 20 Greek affiliated chapters participated in events ranging from a King of Hearts party, which was open to the entire GW community, to The Dating Game, which involved a series of questions in order to find the perfect match between a fraternity boy and a sorority girl.



"This year we added a valentine making party to allow the participating chapters to do community service that benefited the philanthropic aims of our chapter," Bethune said.

During the valentine making party, participants made valentines for children and other patients suffering from cardiac disease who were being treated at local hospitals. The event took place in the Alpha Phi house and heart healthy snacks were provided.

The week concluded with a Hoops for Hearts basketball tournament for the fraternities and a hula hoop competition for the sororities.

“Union Hand in Hand”



In order to promote friendship, develop women of intellect and integrity, cultivate leadership potential and enrich lives through community service, Pi Beta Phi hosted two philanthropy events. In the fall, the chapter held its first Literacy Week. In the spring, the sorority held its annual Arrowstrike event.

"Arrowstrike is a wiffle ball tournament hosted on the National Mall that raises money for our national philanthropy, the Pi Beta Phi Foundation," President Jessi Payton said.

The Pi Beta Phi Foundation used chapter fundraising and alumnae donations to fund initiatives for their national cause of children's literacy.

The event was split into two tournaments divided by gender. Brackets were used to organize play, all under supervision of Pi Phi sisters who served as team captains and referees.

"This year, in an effort to expand the tournament and be even more successful in our fundraising efforts, we greatly expanded our invitees," Payton said. "In the past, Greek events have been almost entirely exclusive to the Greek community, but we reached out beyond that to include a much greater sampling of the GW community."

The chapter extended invitations to all the fraternities, sororities and multicultural organizations on campus, as well as other student organizations and all the GW athletic teams.

"We hoped that in doing so, we would foster a greater campus unity and achieve even greater success for the Pi Beta Phi Foundation," Payton said.

To promote friendship, develop women of intellect and integrity, cultivate leadership potential and enrich lives through community service



Chi Omega

One of Chi Omega's six founding purposes was community service, and in 2002, the sorority announced its alliance with the Make-A-Wish foundation. Since the start of the partnership, Chi O has raised over \$6.5 million and given over 400,000 volunteer hours.

Aside from their spring fashion show,

one of the ways the Phi Alpha chapter raised money for Make-A-Wish was through their annual fall event, Swishes for Wishes. Fraternities competed in a five-on-five basketball tournament and the proceeds benefited the foundation.

"One thing we did differently this year was that we accepted donations from family members, friends and fraternities

on Razoo, an online donation website," President Alyssa Plotkin said. "This change helped us to raise over \$5,000 more than last year!"

In total, Swishes for Wishes raised about \$7,500 and the fraternity Pi Kappa Phi won.



“Hellenic culture and Christian ideals”



Alpha Delta Pi

Diamonds are forever, once they are found. Each year the Alpha Pi chapter of Alpha Delta Pi raises money for Ronald McDonald House Charities through their annual Diamond Heist. This year featured a new event called "Find the Diamond," where participating fraternities solved clues and riddles as they made their way across campus and competed in various activities such as "making diamonds" in the basement of Ivory Tower and buying flowers for their favorite ADPi at the Foggy Bottom Metro Station.

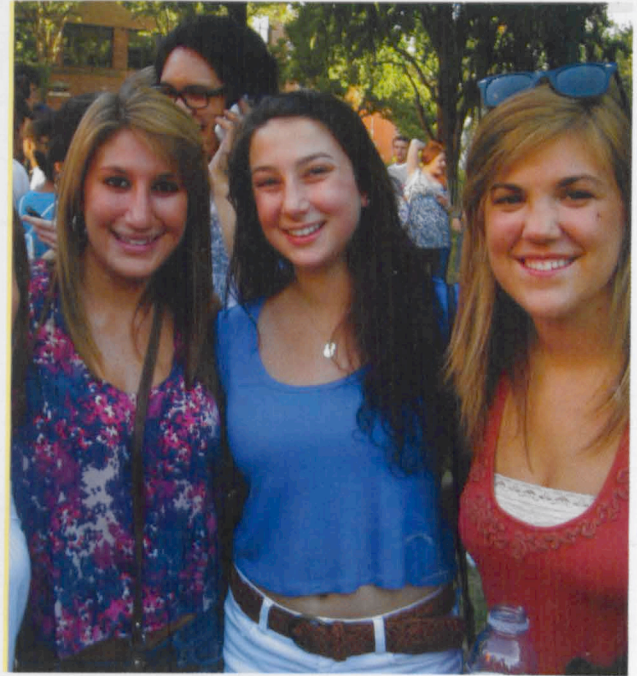
"Another change was incorporating D.C. food trucks for our Jail n' Bail event," Diamond Heist Chair Rayna Bagchi said.

Jail n' Bail took place on the final day of Diamond Heist. During this fundraiser, ADPi sisters were handcuffed to members of the GW community and were asked to raise \$10 for bail in order to have the handcuffs removed.

Other fundraising tactics such as bake sales, a penny war contest, pop tab collection, an online donation site and the favorite "I Spy An ADPi" competition, raised money for the sorority's national philanthropy, Ronald McDonald House Charities. Ronald McDonald House Charities is an international organization that supports programs improving the health and well being of children.

"As sisters of Alpha Delta Pi, we focus our philanthropic efforts on the Ronald McDonald House of Greater Washington D.C.," President Ann Bates said. "In the fall we hosted Diamond Heist and in the spring we host the Lion's Share volleyball tournament in order to raise money for the cause."

In total the sorority raised over \$9,000 and the fraternity Delta Tau Delta came in first place.



"We live for each other"



Sigma Kappa

One heart, one way—multiple causes. Not only did the Zeta chapter of Sigma Kappa raise money for the Sigma Kappa Foundation, but through the foundation their philanthropic efforts also benefited three other causes: Alzheimer's research, the Maine Sea Coast Missionary Society and gerontology research.

In order to raise money, the sorority hosted its annual fall event, Ultra-Violet Days. The event took place over the course of four days, and included the first ever SK5K on the National Mall, in addition to a corn toss, food-eating contest and lip sync.

"We had a great turnout and loved all the enthusiasm from each fraternity that participated," President Colette Byers said. "My favorite night was the lip-sync! It was absolutely hilarious and the guys had some great dance and lip-syncing skills."

While the fraternity Pi Kappa Phi won the event, they were not the only ones awarded. Since its inception, the Sigma Kappa Foundation has granted more than a million dollars in Alzheimer's research and psychosocial grants to investigators and practitioners who are on the front lines in the fight against Alzheimer's. Additionally, the foundation also supported the Maine Sea Coast Missionary Society, which delivers critical services to people in need through pastoral work, financial aid and crisis intervention. Sigma Kappa was also the first national sorority to recognize the need for continued work on the study of aging and the needs of the elderly population.

Furthermore, the foundation awards annual educational and leadership grants and scholarships to encourage well-rounded sisters. While the sisters of Sigma Kappa dedicated themselves to philanthropy, they also hosted their annual "MyTie" and "Tacky Prom" parties, and participated in organizations such as Alternative Breaks, Colonial Cabinet and Dance Works.



“One heart one way”



Phi Sigma Sigma

By encouraging every sister to participate in 10 hours of community service, the Kappa chapter of Phi Sigma Sigma lived by their motto, "Aim High." As a whole, the sorority raised money for the Michael J. Fox Foundation, which worked to help people living with Parkinson's disease, as well as funded Parkinson's research. With the help of Alpha Phi Omega and Delta Epsilon Mu, Phi Sigma Sigma hosted "Pancake for Parkinson's."

For a \$5 donation, attendees were able to purchase an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast, donated by Sodexo. Raffle tickets were also for sale for various awards such as tanning packages from Relaxed Spa and Tans, a Georgetown Cupcake gift card and a Ticketmaster gift card. The event also included corn hole and football games to entertain participants after they purchased their pancakes.

"This year, an online donation page was available before the event was held," President Shelby Geller said. "Those unable to attend the Oct. 2 event were still able to donate towards the Michael J. Fox Foundation." With the new donation page, Pancakes for Parkinson's raised over \$1,100.

In addition to Pancakes for Parkinson's, Phi Sigma Sigma hosted a second event in October called "Princesses for a Day." Activities such as a dance party, manicures and pumpkin painting took place on the Mount Vernon campus for young elementary school girls from the D.C. community. The purpose of the event was to instill in young girls the values of leadership and sisterhood that the sisters of Phi Sigma Sigma live by.



“Aim high”



Sigma Delta Tau



At the 1982 National Convention for Sigma Delta Tau, the convention body unanimously agreed to adopt Prevent Child Abuse America, an organization dedicated to the prevention of a child abuse through citizen action, as SDT's national philanthropy. Since then, the one hope of many people led the Alpha Tau chapter at GW to host various events benefiting the cause.

"Though we always have a fall philanthropy, we decided to change the actual event this year," President Mariah Zwicker said. "In past years we have held 'EAT Your Way Through DC' and a floor hockey tournament. This year we wanted to try something new, and we got a great turn out!"

While all fraternities were invited to participate in the new SigDelt Soccer Tournament, teams came from PIKE, DTD, AEPi, Sigma Chi, PiKapp, SigEp, Kappa Sig, Phi Psi, PSK, Sigma Nu and Lambda Chi, and each team was coached by a sister of SDT.



The soccer tournament was held on the National Mall in November, and each fraternity competed against one another based on a bracket that was predetermined by t-shirt sales. The championship game was played between PIKE and DTD, and although DTD was victorious, the fraternity was not the only group that benefited from the event.

Together, with each SDT chapter in the country, more than \$100,000 was contributed to Prevent Child Abuse America.

“One hope of many people”



Kappa Kappa Gamma



Gaining recognition on campus as a local chapter called Gamma Beta Pi, it was not until June 7, 1929 that the women of Kappa Kappa Gamma received their official charter. Since then, Kappa has remained on GW's campus through the explosive 60's and trying political times.

"We prided ourselves in our academic achievements and in our involvement throughout the GW community," President Sarah Potter said.

Each year, the chapter hosted "Reading is Key," at the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington D.C. in coordination with the organization Reading is Fundamental (RIF), Kappa's national philanthropy. RIF's goal was to promote literacy through donations as well as hands-on work.

"We've made numerous visits to their headquarters [in D.C.] to see what they do and talk to them about how we can further their goal of promoting literacy," Potter said.

Kappa's most well known philanthropy event was "Kappa Kickball," a kickball tournament open to all GW students. Several teams of eight, each coached by two sisters, faced off in an all-day single elimination tournament. The money that was raised from the event went to RIF, as well as to the Kappa Kappa Gamma Foundation.

“Tradition of leadership”



Delta Gamma



Throughout the year, the Beta Rho chapter of Delta Gamma served the D.C. community in many ways, including meeting with seniors and providing manicures at St. Mary's Court, working with the Adaptive Services division of the Martin Luther King Jr. Library and aiding visually impaired people by reading mail. All of these tasks fulfilled their motto – "Do Good."

In addition to servicing the surrounding area, DG also hosted their annual fundraising event, Anchor Bowl. The week's events included a kick-off BBQ, bake sales, a raffle, "penny war" donation tables, skit performances and lastly the infamous football tournament on the National Mall.

"The was Delta Gamma's first year having a BBQ incorporated into the week, which ended up being a great success!" President Elizabeth Kennedy said.

All the proceeds made throughout the week went to the Delta Gamma Foundation for Blindness, which funded over 51 organizations internationally, that assisted those who were visually impaired. While several groups benefited from the sorority's efforts, the fraternity Pi Kappa Alpha was the champion.



“Do good”



Alpha Epsilon Phi



Originally focusing on providing aid to Jewish war sufferers and scholarships for those in need, Alpha Epsilon Phi ultimately introduced national philanthropies that allowed for hands-on community service: the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) and the Sharsheret Breast Cancer Society which supports young women facing breast cancer. AEPi alumna Elizabeth Meyer Glaser and two of her close friends founded EGPAF after Elizabeth and her two children were diagnosed with AIDS. The foundation's critical mission was to bring hope to children with AIDS, and AEPi assisted by holding events that raised money and raised awareness.

"Every year Phi Hoops benefits one of AEPi's national philanthropies, Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation," Vice President of Philanthropy Briana Monkarsh said. "Our chapter has a great relationship with the organization, specifically working closely with the headquarters in D.C."

Phi Hoops was a five-on-five basketball tournament held in HelWell during the spring. Nine GW fraternities competed

against each other, and raised money by paying an entrance fee of \$120 per organization. A snack and dinner was also provided since the event was held on a Thursday night.

"Typically the event is a Saturday or Sunday day-long event," Monkarsh said. "But, this year, it was a Thursday afternoon from 5-7."

According to Monkarsh, the sorority received great feedback about the Thursday night time.

The fraternity PIKE won, beating AEPi in the final round. Their prize was a pizza dinner donated by Upper Crust.

AEPi doubled the amount of money they raised from the previous year, and throughout the years, national philanthropic and community service projects have also included support of dental clinics, scholarships for refugee students and the Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer, Israel.

“Many hearts, one purpose”

ZΦB

Zeta Phi Beta

The Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Xi Sigma Chapter, strived for excellence and exemplified the principles of scholarship, service, sisterly love and finer womanhood through numerous hours of voluntary service.

"We educated the public, assisted youth, provided scholarships, supported organized charities and promoted legislation for social and civic change," President Natasha Dupee said.

This year the organization participated in the March of Dimes, Z-HOPE initiatives, service at St. Mary's Court, the Walk for the Homeless, the AIDS Walk, MLK Day of Service and the GW

Black Heritage celebration. Additionally, the chapter hosted their annual Blu Café, a dinner and performance showcase. Zeta Phi Beta also hosted Finer Womanhood Week celebrations, a bi-annual discussion on tomfoolery in the media, a game night, and weekly study sessions in the MSSC.

Aside from their dedication to service, "Xi Sigma chapter was different from other sororities on campus because of our principles, national history, and personality," Dupee said.

The members departed from the traditional coalitions for black women and established an organization predicated on the precepts of their four main principles.



Scholarship, Service, Sisterly Love and Finer Womanhood



Lambda Upsilon Lambda



As the only Latino fraternal organization in Washington, D.C., La Unidad Latina, Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity, Inc., was founded as an organization committed to enhancing the quality of life of all Latinos. Throughout the years, the Chi chapter continuously and consistently took strides towards achieving this goal.

"In working towards this end, we addressed key issues that concern the Latino community in ways that only an organization pioneered by Latinos can," President Noel Mendoza said.

By participating in events such as Relay for Life, the State of Latinos in Education, Eat to Beat and a Diabetes Walk, and

annually hosting events that brought awareness to the issues of the Latino community, La Fraternidad became a leader in the Washington, D.C. community.

"We believed in a diverse membership, a commitment to academic excellence and a proactive vision towards raising awareness about the Latino culture and history," Mendoza said.

Through their efforts, the organization hoped to provide their community with examples of leadership, integrity and self-empowerment that will allow them to challenge adversity and inequality.

"The One and Only"



Mu Sigma Upsilon



Since its inception as the first multicultural Greek letter society in the nation on Nov. 21, 1981 at Rutgers University, the women of Mu Sigma Upsilon Sorority, Inc. have always been united.

"It was the vision of the Founding Mothers to unite all women regardless of race, religion, sexuality or creed, and share among them the theme of 'Women Always United,'" President Christelle Saintis said. "This mission continued today at GW."

Three individuals who sought to bring something new to GW's campus founded the Roma chapter of Mu Sigma Upsilon Sorority, Inc. on April 17, 2010. Since that time, the sisters of Mu Sigma Upsilon pledged to uphold the goals of academic excellence, unity amongst all women and community service by hosting various events. MSU also participated in community service not only on campus, but in the community at large, as well as holding and taking part in various multicultural events on campus.



“Women always united”



Lambda Pi Chi

Latinas Promoviendo Comunidad/Lambda Pi Chi Sorority, Inc. was the first Latina sorority founded at an Ivy League institution, but the sisterhood did not end there, just like its motto states: the sisterhood never ends.

"As a chapter we really strived to be active in and outside the GW community," President Elizabeth Escovar said. "We sought to unify women through the promotion of community service programs that highlight the contributions of women and people of color in addition to offering opportunities for academic and professional advancement to members of historically underrepresented groups."

Lambda Pi Chi hosted events such as a blood marrow drive at GW, the International Women's Day Banquet and their annual Pi Chi Week—True Life: Growing up in America. The chapter also co-sponsored "Noche De Cultura" with the Organization of Latino American Students and other events for the Organization of Latino American Students Alternative Spring Break in Guatemala.

"Our passion and dedication to our organization and our community has kept us on track and we have been able to maintain, and even enhance, our programming this year," Escovar said.



“La Hermandad Nunca Termina”















SPORTS







Pat Nero Athletic Director

The man behind the teams

After spending four years on campus, most GW students reflected on past internships around the District, friends from freshman year, and certainly all their time spent in Gelman. Some students graduated having never attended a GW sporting event. Still, others only remembered the time President Obama came to a basketball game in 2009. However, when Pat Nero became the new Athletic Director, memories and school spirit changed for the better.

Since the Providence born sports fanatic took the reins of the Athletic Department in April 2011, many changes occurred. Nero commented that his transition from his previous position was just as fast-paced as any game-changing event.

"I got the job and three days later I was searching for a new basketball coach," Nero said. "Some Athletic Directors never do that and I did it on my third day."

Athletes knew that performing well under pressure was the key to a successful career and Nero set a great example for all athletes at GW. Nero had a plethora of changes set in motion to achieve his overall goal of changing the attitude and atmosphere surrounding the sporting world on campus. He wanted the entire athletic operation to be a more cohesive entity, including all the students who used the Lerner Health and Wellness Center throughout the year. He first started by building a sense of community and family amongst the sports teams.

On one of the first Sundays back on campus, Nero sent varsity athletes on

a day retreat to George Washington's historical home, Mount Vernon. "We wore his name on our uniforms, we might as well learn something about him," Nero joked. At the retreat, Nero split up the athletes and allowed the teams to intermix. Nero remarked that by the end of the day the atmosphere had already changed. The entire varsity community became one team instead of many.

While building a better sporting community, Nero also focused on updating the facilities on GW's campus. In order to recruit talented assets to the team, the University needed better equipment that allowed the players to compete at their best level. For example, the men's soccer team could not play any home games this season due to the other teams' refusal to play on the Mount Vernon soccer pitch. As a result, Nero made sure that the soccer field would be redone, in addition to improving the baseball field.

Nero also committed to improve the Health and Wellness Center. 10 years ago when "Helwell" first opened, the University expected around 1,500 students to use the facilities. In 2012, 4,000 students visited the gym daily. "The facility needed to change with the new influx of students," Nero said.

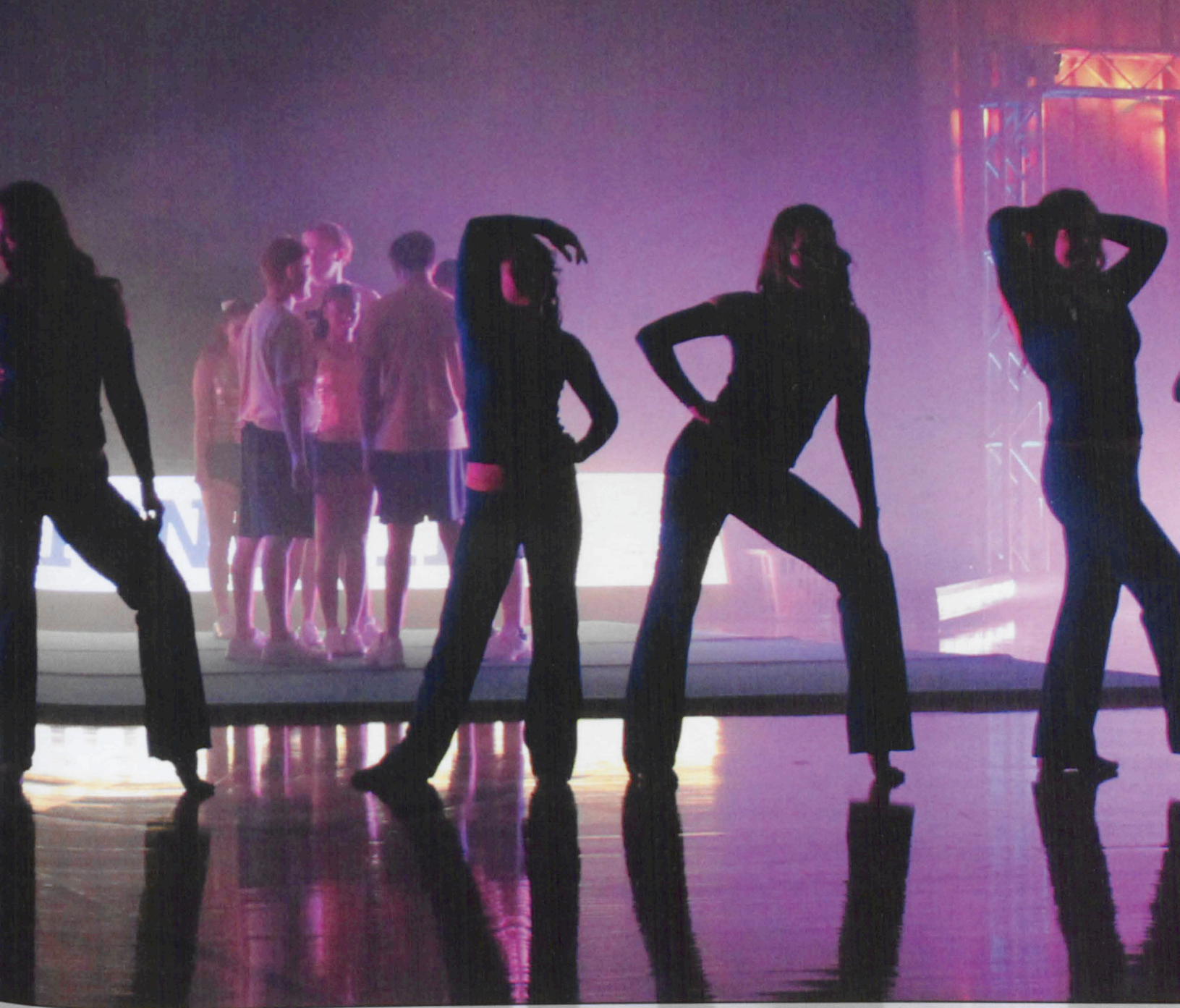
Nero planned to make sure that each sport had a fan base of GW students. However, as a personal goal, Nero remarked "I still need to catch up on the rules of cricket and rowing."



Raise High

**Colonials Invasion
showcased GW Athletics**

What more could you ask for in a night filled with a slam-dunk contest, Capital Funk performance and a dance number by the mascots of GW featuring the one and only Big George? Colonials Invasion was a great start to both Colonials Weekend as well as the men's and women's basketball seasons. It was a great opportunity to showcase the various talents on campus, including the basketball teams, GW Cheer and Capital Funk. It was hard to forget watching Big George spinning around on his



head to Flo Rida, or watching a hip-hop dance to the music of ADELE. The event incorporated many different members of the colonial community by fusing together pop-culture with the Buff and Blue.

Colonials Invasion also marked the start to a fantastic Colonials Weekend. GW families were able to experience the event together,

while celebrating the beginning of the basketball season.

"Colonials invasion was the best pep-rally I have ever been to," freshman Jillian Busch remarked. "My parents loved it because they felt that they saw a glimpse into my new life." Overall, the event successfully demonstrated a tremendous amount of buff and blue pride.

D.C. SPORTS

Many students enjoyed attending sporting events around the city. Whether it was at a Nationals game or D.C. United match, GW students could often be found supporting their local professional teams, especially when they sponsored a "college night." These nights featured cheap tickets, a tailgate and free food. Many GW students from various social groups were able to meet over the common interest of sports. At the Program Board-sponsored D.C. United Tailgate students dined on barbeque

and discussed whether star athlete Chris Pontius would return to the field next season. In the spring, Colonials could be found at Nationals Park enjoying the ambience of America's favorite past time. The sports atmosphere was a great way to connect GW to the D.C. community. Around campus, it would not have been uncommon to see someone wearing a Capitals jersey or a student doing the "John Wall dance." Wearing a sports jersey around campus was also a sure way to spark up a random

conversation with another sports fan.

GW professors could be seen discussing D.C. sports with their students. Every class, Professor Hugh Agnew would discuss his past and upcoming weekend plans that always included some type of D.C. sporting event. This was a great way to increase class participation and contributed to students getting more involved in the D.C. community both inside and outside of the classroom.



Chasing Coeds

Intramural sports provided students an athletic outlet

Winning the Intramural Cup may not sound as prestigious as an NCAA championship, but the GW students who participated in intramurals believed otherwise.

"I played intramural sports because I love sports," senior Andrew Kinde, who played on three intramural sports teams each year, said. "I played in high school and I didn't want to lose that atmosphere and spirit of team camaraderie and competition,"

Others had different motivations to play. "I had a great time with my friends while at the same time laughing at them when they fell down," senior TJ McCartan said.

Intramural sports were an excellent combination of friends, competition, laughs and exercise. It was hard to mimic

the type of bonding that can be shared on the sporting field. Intramurals made friends closer and also created opportunities for new friendships. "I even met many of my good friends through intramurals," Kinde said.

Intramurals also created a chance to experience the coed side of sports in an organized atmosphere. "The coed competition brings a new dynamic into the game, where coordination and communication become more important than individual talent," junior Alex Schaper said.

Whatever the inspiration for joining, it was clear that intramural sports were the place where fond memories were made and where friends stuck together.





Club Sports | Fall Focus

Equestrian

Every year, over 500 students participate in club sports on campus. The GW club sports teams had just as much tenacity and love for their sport as any varsity athlete. Each week, the club equestrian team - also known as GWET - traveled an hour away to practice for their shows.

"We paid for our coach out of our pockets and then had fundraisers for transportation costs," GWET member and senior Erika Renson said. "It was difficult at times to raise

all the money that we needed, but in the end it was worth it because I have been riding for my entire life and wanted to continue here at GW."

These athletes dedicated significant amounts of time and money to their club team in order to perform at the highest possible level. The Equestrians, along with the club rugby team, put their Krispy Kreme fundraiser money to good use in order to make it affordable for the players.



Rugby

Rugby was yet another popular club sport at GW for dedicated athletes. Senior Jordyn Gottlieb attended every rugby game this year, even though she was injured the previous season.

"I did have the option of just quitting the team because I could not play, but it just felt wrong," Gottlieb said. "We may not have been a varsity sport but we still

worked hard and I felt a bond with my teammates that I could not leave them."

Club athletes certainly earned the respect of their peers by the commitment they showed and the blood, sweat and tears that they shed during their four years of club sports. Ultimately, club sports at GW were an integral part of campus life.



Club Sports | Spring Focus

Men's Lacrosse

The GW Colonials Men's Club Lacrosse team finished the spring season with a record of 12-4. The team, although considered a club team at GW, competed against Varsity Division 1 ranked schools throughout the season. The season began with two early losses coming from Division I, Top 10-ranked Navy and University of Maryland. But under the leadership of senior midfielder and offensive MVP Nick Bryan and junior midfielder David Goscinak, the Colonials won the following seven out of eight games to make it into the Chesapeake Conference Playoffs.

The Colonials set the tone for the Conference Tournament by defeating cross-town rivals Georgetown University 9-8. The team went on to win their first ever Chesapeake DII Conference Championship and a bid to the NCLL National Championship Tournament. During the tournament, the Colonials faced No. 2 ranked St. Joseph's Hawks and nabbed a close 9-8 victory against the Hawks. Then they moved on to the next round to face Slippery Rock University, who they defeated handily, by a score of 10-6. For the first time ever, the team made it to the Championship game, but fell short to the Cincinnati Bearcats 14-13 in overtime.

During the tournament, freshman Jake Venditto became a strong force for the team. "Our team is stacked with a lot of young, raw talent, but Jake is a special player – you show Jake a dodge or draw up a play on the chalkboard and immediately it's a part of his arsenal. He is a pleasure to coach and will take this program far in the future," Coach Joe Opron said. The team showed up to the pitch each game and were rewarded with a fantastic season for all their hard work.





Smells Like Team Spirit



Spirit was felt all throughout campus



The Colonial Army has grown in the past four years, reflecting just how much GW's school spirit has grown. In 2008, when a prospective student would visit the Smith Center on a Saturday afternoon to attend a basketball game, usually they would see one section full of college students: some dressed in yellow and others wearing another college sweatshirt. Four years later, school spirit rose to an exceptional level for GW. Granted, it was still not on par with big state schools, but the amount of students that attended basketball games this year doubled since 2008. "Freshman year I didn't even know when basketball games were, but by my senior year, I attended almost every home game with my friends," senior Hellen Dawitt said. "The tailgates before the game created a great atmosphere that I think was lacking in 2008."

The Colonial Army helped create this enthusiastic atmosphere through the lively tailgates before the game. Co-Presidents Andrew Hanks and Courtney Oddman worked hard to create a fun atmosphere before and after games while the basketball team and Colonial Brass band took care of everything inside the Smith Center.





We've Got Spirit

Both the GW First Ladies dance team and the cheer team qualified for the National Championship and the National Cheerleading Championships for the 11th consecutive year. The cheer and dance teams not only performed at all home basketball games, but they also traveled to all of the away games as well. Although these games were great places to practice new routines, the teams never lost sight of their main reason for performing. "As always, our goal was to contribute a sense of school spirit among students

and throughout campus, whether it is at basketball games, events on campus or throughout the Washington Metropolitan area," former head coach Ariz Matute said. The cheer team worked hard to engage with the fans and to perform at their highest ability. Big George, Little George, and the Hippo also contributed to the great halftime shows at each basketball game.



Fundamentals

Athletes on and off the court

At GW, the student-athletes were hard to miss. Whether they walked in limping and icing a limb, or sauntered into class in full GW sports attire, the athletes were easily identifiable.

Since Athletic Director Pat Nero took control of the Athletic Department, the term "student-athlete" was revolutionized. As in previous years, time management was an important aspect of life as a student-athlete. However, it was more than just managing classes and practice times.

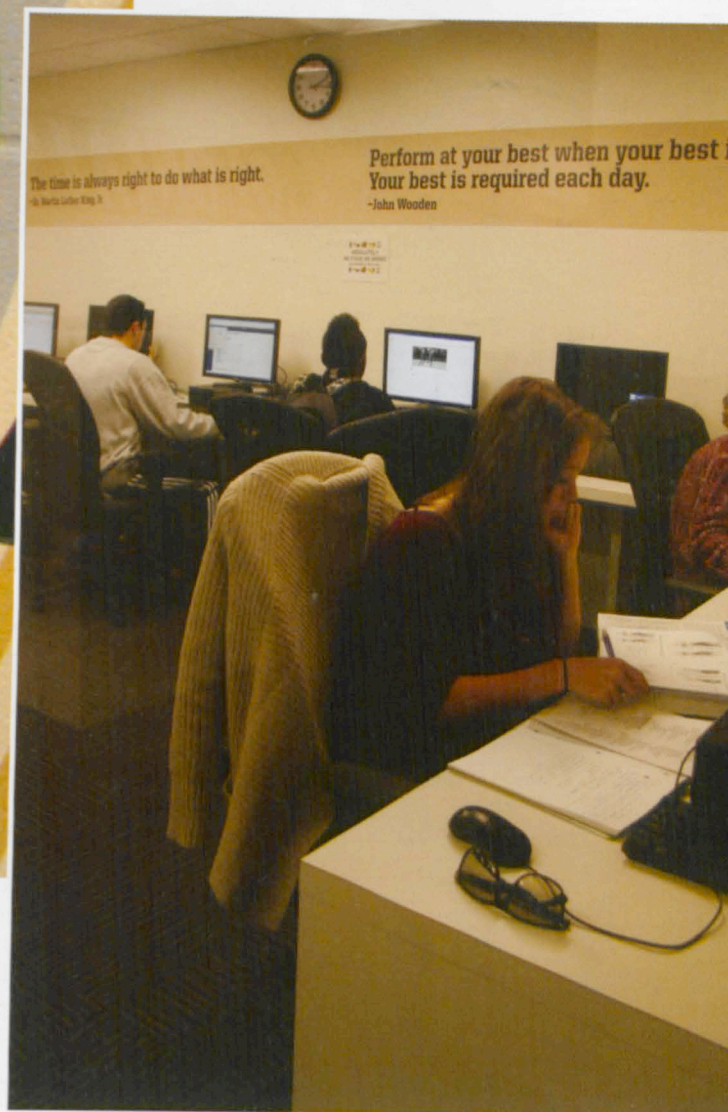
"Athletics extended far past practice, and to be a good runner you had to really dedicate all your lifestyle choices for the sport," senior cross-country runner Emily Foster reflected.

Nero also encouraged the athletes to give back to the community. On one bright Saturday morning in the fall, about 25 athletes devoted their morning to doing yard work with underprivileged children.



The most important part of being a student athlete was maintaining a balance. The skills required of a competitive athlete, like teamwork and motivation, also translated into success in the classroom.

Jose Calderon '12
Squash Captain



Unlike years past, the Athletic Department focused on making their athletes a closer, more well-rounded group of students.

"My team was my family; there is no other way to put it," swimmer Phillip Graeter said. "We stuck together and helped each other to make sure we could get everything done and still perform well."

Even with the new pressures that were added to the already strenuous life of an athlete, most of them were happy with the changes Nero made.

"I think the whole Athletic Department was revolutionized. Athletes were held to higher standards in our conduct as student-athletes and in our athletic performance," Foster said. "This change was definitely needed."





A RECORD YEAR

Men's Soccer shot their way to the top

The GW men's soccer team had a tremendous season. The team posted an overall record of 10-6-3, an amazing eight game turnaround from their previous season. The team started out with a couple of losses, but had a turnaround during the second half of the season and eventually won its first regular season title in 19 years.

The team advanced to the tournament championship's final match but lost in penalty kicks to Xavier. It was a successful cap to the 24-year tenure for Head Coach George Lidster who was named the 2011 A-10 coach of the year.

The soccer team went 6-0 on the Mount Vernon field, five of which were shutouts. GW defeated La Salle in the A-10 semifinals during double overtime. Senior Yoni Berhanu, who was named the A-10's midfielder of the year, scored the first goal during the first 20 minutes of regular play at the Saint Louis field.

After an equalizer by La Salle in the last minutes before half-time, the match stayed tied to the end of the second half and through the first 10-minute overtime period. The entire crowd thought they were headed towards penalty kicks when freshman Farhan Khan sneaked the ball past the La Salle goalkeeper to advance the Colonials to the A-10 championships for the first time in seven years.

After the game, Berhanu expressed his thoughts about why his team performed so well this season.

"When it comes down to it, this year we haven't given up goals, and when you

don't give up goals, you will always get your chances to score," he said. "Because our defense has been so rock solid in not giving anything up, eventually teams start to go forward, and that leaves a lot of space for us to attack. We know if we get one or two goals it's going to be enough [to win]. That's the sign of a championship team."

The team entered the Championship game focused and ready to take home the title. The team fought valiantly against Xavier during the championship match but fell short during penalty kicks. Coach Lidster praised his team for their efforts during the final match.

"Unfortunately we were just on the wrong end today, and sometimes that's the way it goes," he said. "I think all the injuries finally caught up to us. We did great though, and I am so proud of [the team]. They gave everything, and I was proud of the way they represented themselves, the coaching staff and George Washington University."

The team lost four seniors this year: defender Mike Burke, Brice Carr, and Jake Davis and forward Yoni Berhanu. However, the Colonials still had promise for the 2012 season. All of the athletes were focused to perform even better with new head coach Craig Jones leading the way.

*Hatchet Writer Daniel Wright
contributed to this report.*

FEVER PITCH



Individual players shined throughout the season

The women's soccer team had a great developing season, acquiring an overall record of 5-12-2 and 2-5-2 in the Atlantic 10. The most crucial win of the season against Xavier left fans and players biting their nails until the last two minutes of the first overtime period. After two scoreless halves and only 1:58 remaining in the first overtime period, sophomore Alex Neal dribbled her way around two Xavier defenders before she crossed the ball to freshman Meg Murphy who found the back of the net. The goal triggered the rest of the Colonials sprinting onto the field in celebration of the win and gave the Colonials the first of just two victories in the A-10 season.

"Our players battled against a very good Xavier team," Head Coach Tanya Vogel said. "We have done very well in overtime this season, and I knew they were going to play hard and fight for the win."

Although the record may not have been ideal, players shined on and off the field individually. Junior defender Samie Cloutier was named to the Atlantic 10 Women's Soccer All-Conference Second Team and senior goalie Lindsay Rowe capped her career at GW ranked third all-

time on GW's career shutout list with 16 during her four seasons. She was also third on the career saves list with 357 total saves.

The team lost three seniors this year: goalkeeper Lindsay Rowe, midfielder Sierra Schmidger and forward Taryn Detrichdt. "I'll miss Sierra's work ethic, Taryn's love for the game and Lindsey's ability to communicate," junior Samie Cloutier said. The three seniors led the team to a great season but the hopes for an even more successful future season are now the focus of the team. Since more than half of the players were underclassmen, there was definite room for improvement and success. Cloutier already had a small taste this year for the upcoming responsibility she will have next year in order to lead her team. "Our coaches would continually bring it to the junior's attention that we were next in line to be seniors and to start leading now," she said. It was exciting to see the development in skill and tenacity on the field from the women Colonials and it will be great to see even more improvement in seasons to come.







ON YOUR MARK



Men's Cross Country
grew as a team

Injuries plagued the men's cross country team for the second consecutive year. Seniors Alex Dadds and David McCutcheon were out for the entire 2011 season. In addition to the injuries, the team also had a new head coach, Tony Weir.

"It was a tough year for us as we had some of our top guys out with injuries," McCutcheon reflected. "The team also had to adjust to working with a new coach with a different



training philosophy than we had been working under for the past several years."

Yet, the healthy runners still worked hard after a shaky start to the season, coming in last place at the St. Mary's Invitational, and the team had two runners qualify and compete in the A-10 championships.

Senior Zach Borenstein ran the 5K race in 16:04, taking a 13th place finish out of 80 competitors. It was a tough

rebuilding year overall but there was much hope for the next season.

"Next season we're expecting improved leadership and experience to help us better our performance, particularly at the Atlantic 10 Championships," McCutcheon said. The team took the off-season to heal their injuries and looked forward to a fresh start.





RACE AGAINST THE CLOCK

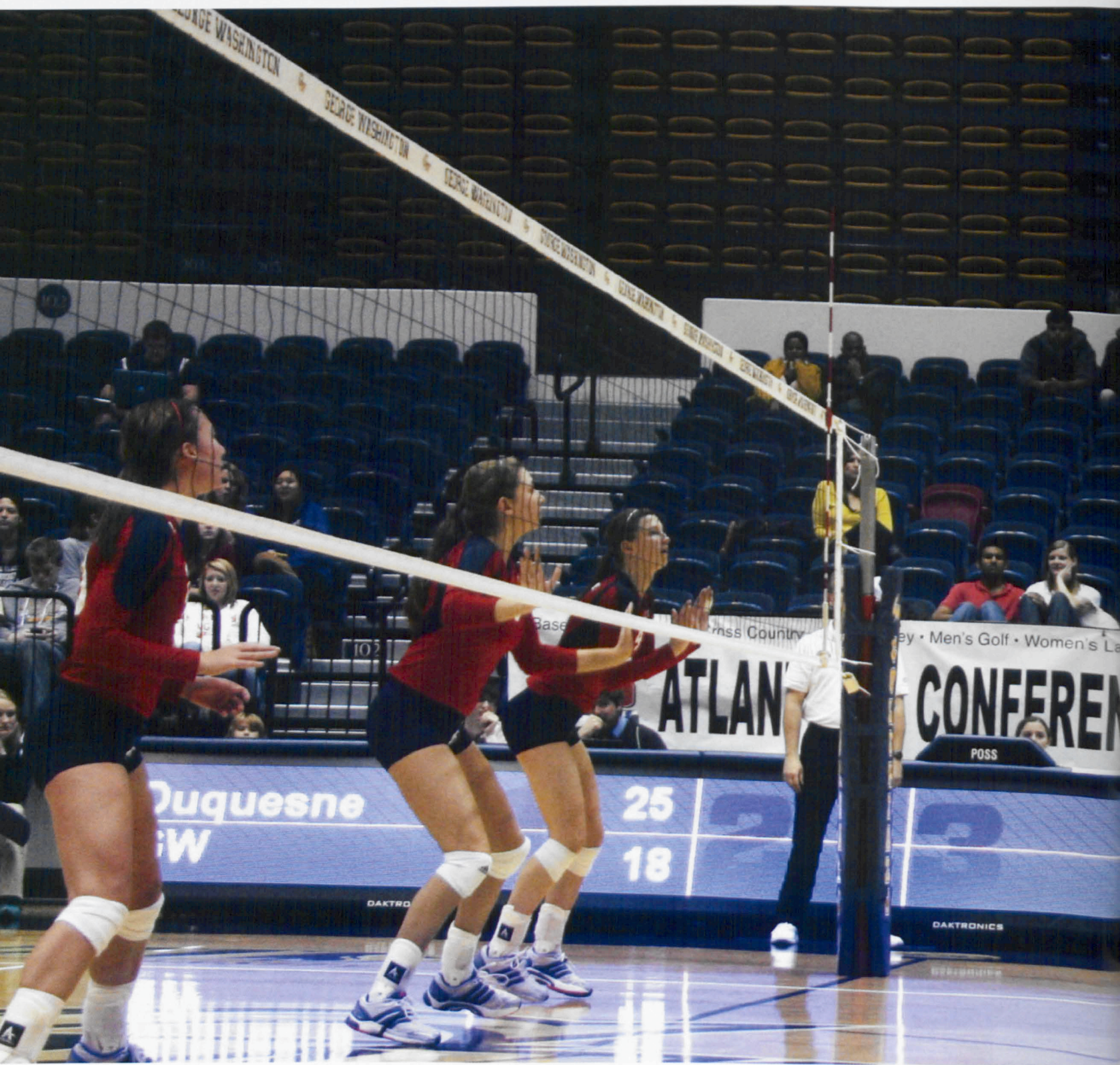


The Women's Cross Country Team performed well at the A-10 Championship

The women's cross country team had a solid season, culminating in a great showing at the A-10 Championship in Charlotte. Junior Julia Weir led the team with a time of 19:05, improving from her previous A-10 championship time by 85 seconds. The 5K course was composed of multiple twists and turns as well as steep hills. Just looking at the course would make anyone tired, let alone running it in less than 20 minutes. Junior Heather Stevens was the second Colonial to cross the finish line at 19:56, followed by freshmen Paige Peltan, Kathryn Luker and Erika Halvorson.

The A-10 Championships was an especially great end to leader Julia Weir's individual season. Prior to her A-10 showing, she had two top 10 showings at the Leopold Invitational as well as at the George Mason Invitational.

The Colonials took the time in the off-season to heal old injuries and plan to improve their overall team time in the future. The team lost lone senior Emily Foster, who missed the season due to an ankle injury. The future looked bright with incoming senior Weir leading the team in the 2012-2013 season.



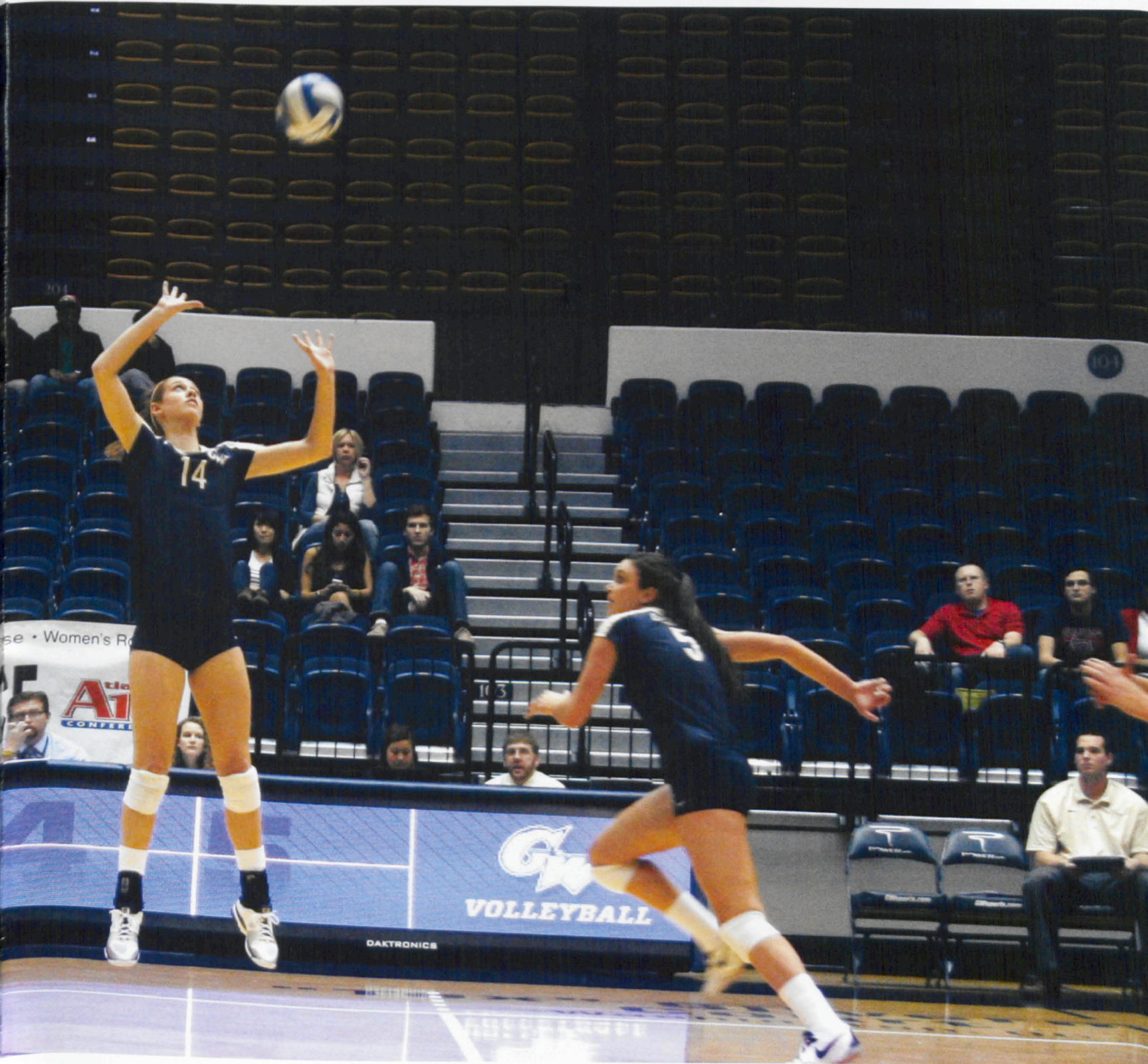
Bump, Set, Spike, Ace!



GW Volleyball entered the A-10 Championship

The GW volleyball team bumped, set and spiked their way into a great season in 2012. The team finished with an overall record of 20-10 and an A-10 record of 8-7. Lone senior Mackenzie Knox led the team until the end, scoring a career high of 16 kills in her last game against Duquesne University.

The season started out with a great surge of confidence and momentum with their home win against D.C. rival Georgetown University. "It was a huge rival game for us and the win was amazing," Knox said. "We had such a huge crowd and the energy that we felt in that game was something I will never forget."



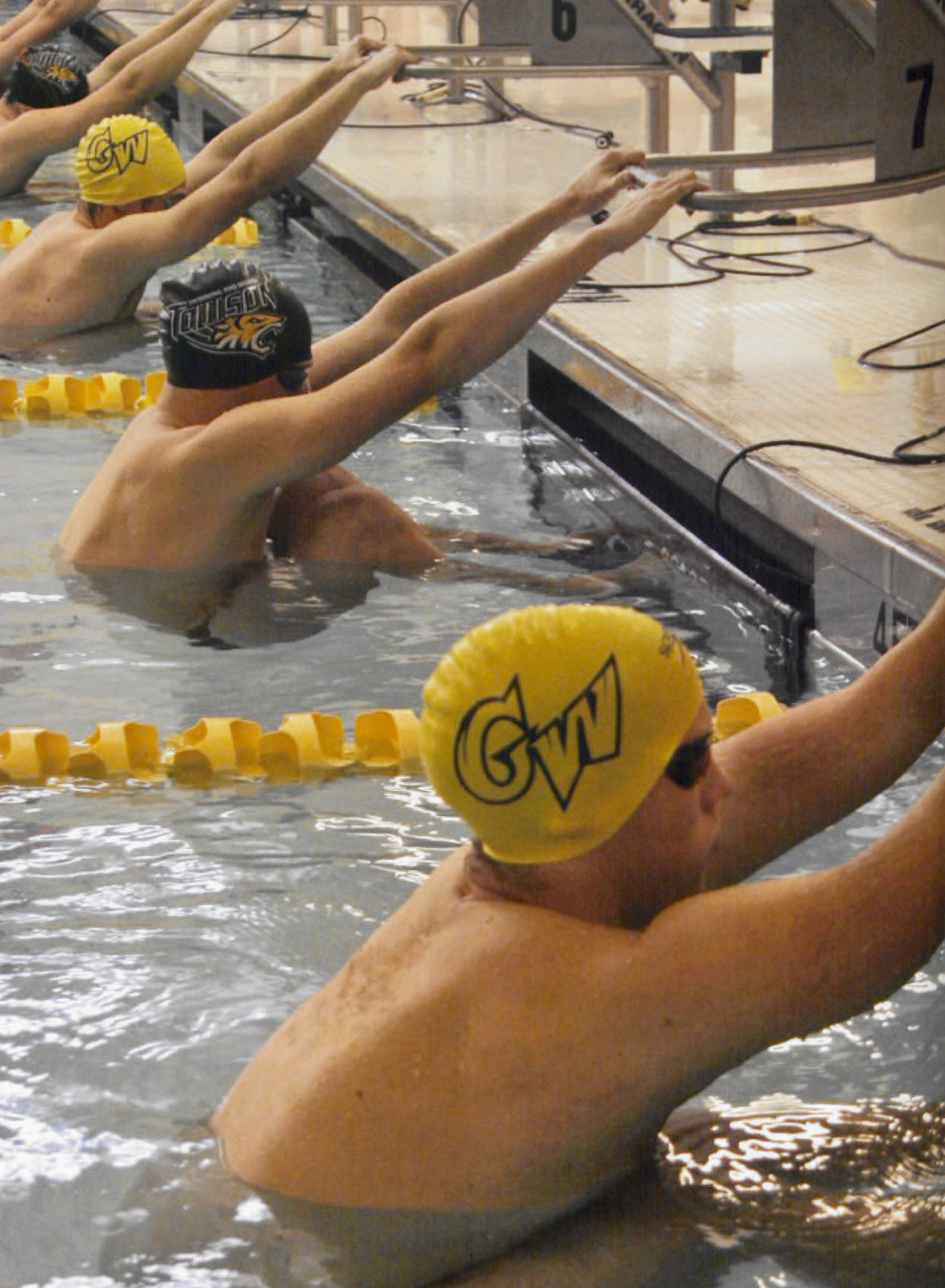
The win against Georgetown was not only a great way to start off the season, but it also solidified Amanda Ault's spot as head coach. This was Ault's first year at GW and she delivered a great first season.

"From the first day of preseason to the last day of the season, Coach Ault provided us with feedback, pushed us hard and set the foundation for what she wanted GW volleyball to be like in the future," junior Lauren Whyte reflected. "It was incredible the transformation that the team went through from day one until the last day, but we were so much better off, and only continued to improve."

Through Ault's positive pressure to work harder every

practice, she helped the team connect as a whole. "Coach Ault really showed us how to be good teammates and to believe in one another while at the same time pushing each other because we were all working towards the same goals," sophomore Jamie Armstrong explained.

The Colonials improved immensely and strived to carry this momentum into next season. Coach Ault's enthusiasm and dedication, combined with only one graduating senior ensured that the Colonials would spike their way further into the A-10 tournament.





While most GW students enjoyed their extra week off during the winter break, the men's swimming team was busy training in Puerto Rico. The team's annual holiday training season had always been a vital 10 days of bonding and training, but lone senior Marshall Seedorff reflected that this year's trip was especially critical in order to set the right pace for the rest of the season.

"Swimming two practices in the pool a day, and another dry land practice – running, weights, abs, etc. – was a challenge both physically and mentally for every member of the team," Seedorff reflected. "We had a fantastic training trip this year. The work ethic our team exhibited in Puerto Rico was reflective of the intensity we bring to every practice."

Head Coach Dan Reinhart certainly did something right in Puerto Rico because the men's team had a record season, including a pivotal win against Georgetown University.

"Taking first, second, third, and fourth place against Georgetown in the 100-freestyle was something I had never seen happen before," junior Philip Graeter commented.

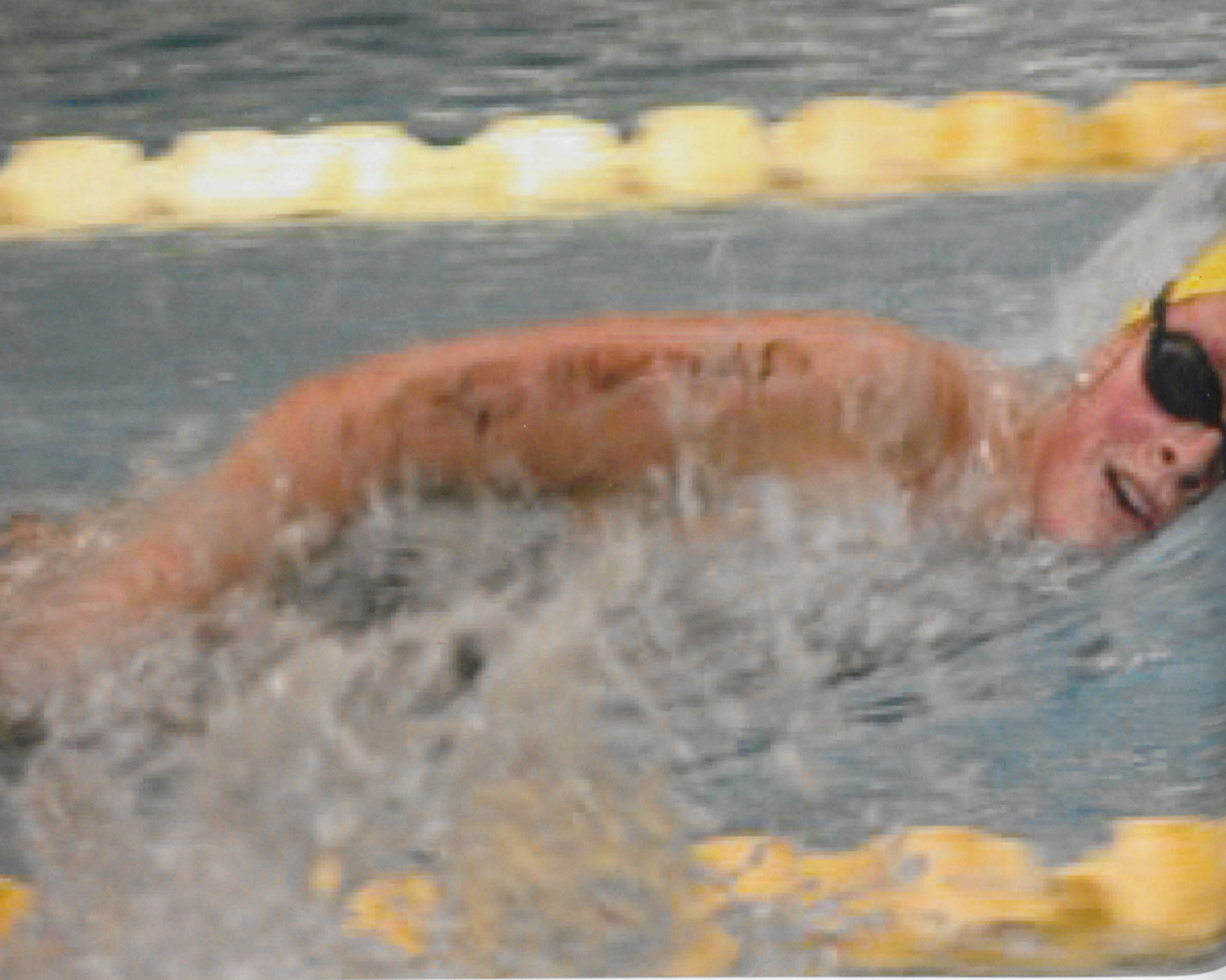
Graeter was named the A-10 top performer of the week after his contribution to the Colonials' first home dual meet of the season. Graeter's leading example also helped spark friendly competition, as junior Niklas Glenesk was named the A-10 top performer of the week later on in the season.

Seedorff had no worries about the future of the men's swimming team. "I left the team in the hands of some very strong junior leadership and a very talented squad," Seedorff said. With Graeter and Glenesk's strong showings in 2012, next year promised to be successful.

FREE STYLING



The Men's Swimming Team trained hard in foreign waters



MAKING A SPLASH



GW Women's Swimming
had a strong season

The women's swimming team finished their season on a high note with their victory over the Hoyas. Sophomore Lindsey Moore described the meet against Georgetown University as her favorite memory of the season.

"We celebrated our seniors' last home meet by recognizing them and all of their accomplishments," Moore said. "We started out the meet with our medley relays, and GW won first place in both the men's and women's medleys. That was when we started to get really pumped up and continued racing well for the rest of the meet. For the women, the meet came down to the last relay, and our girls had to win first and third place to beat the Georgetown ladies."

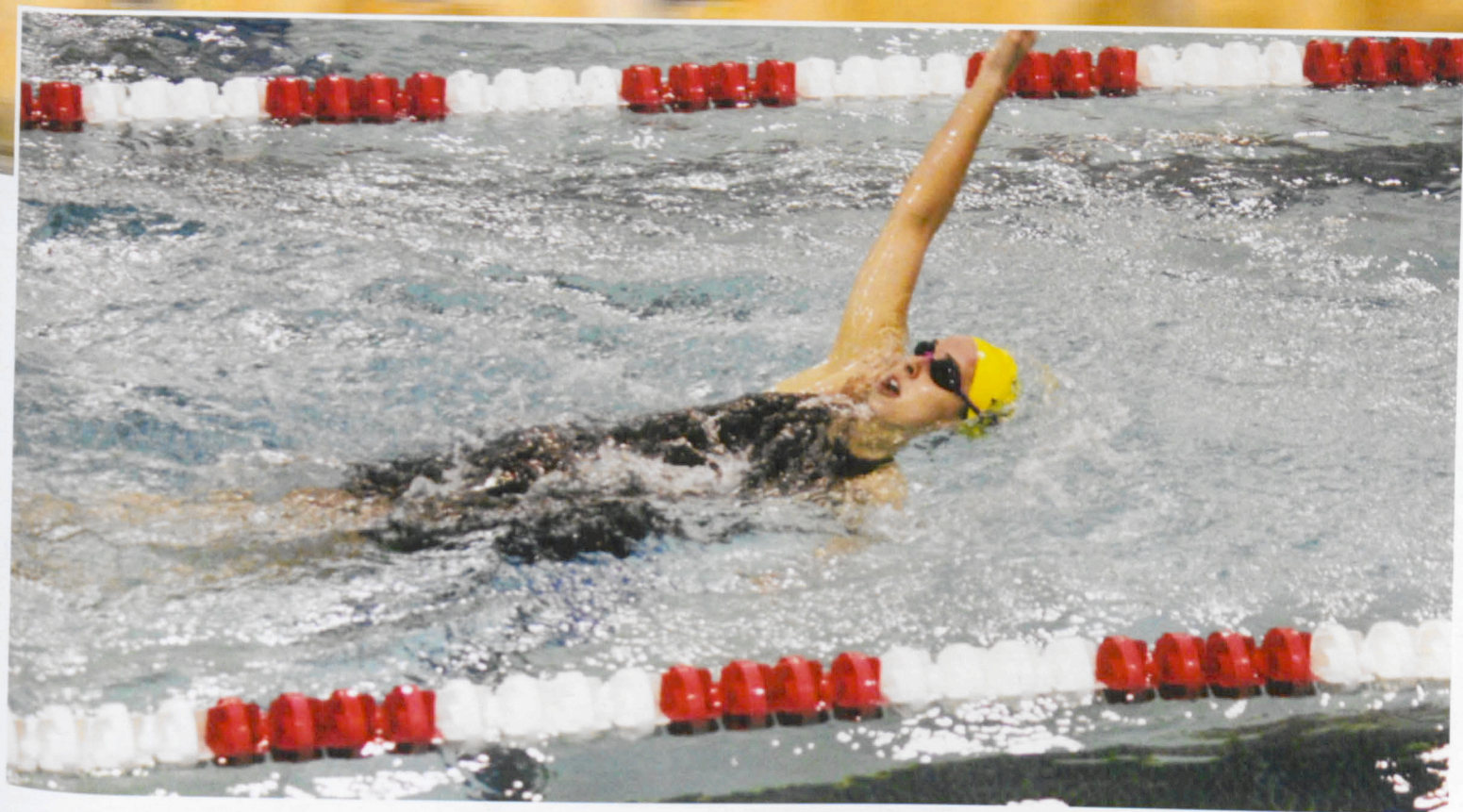
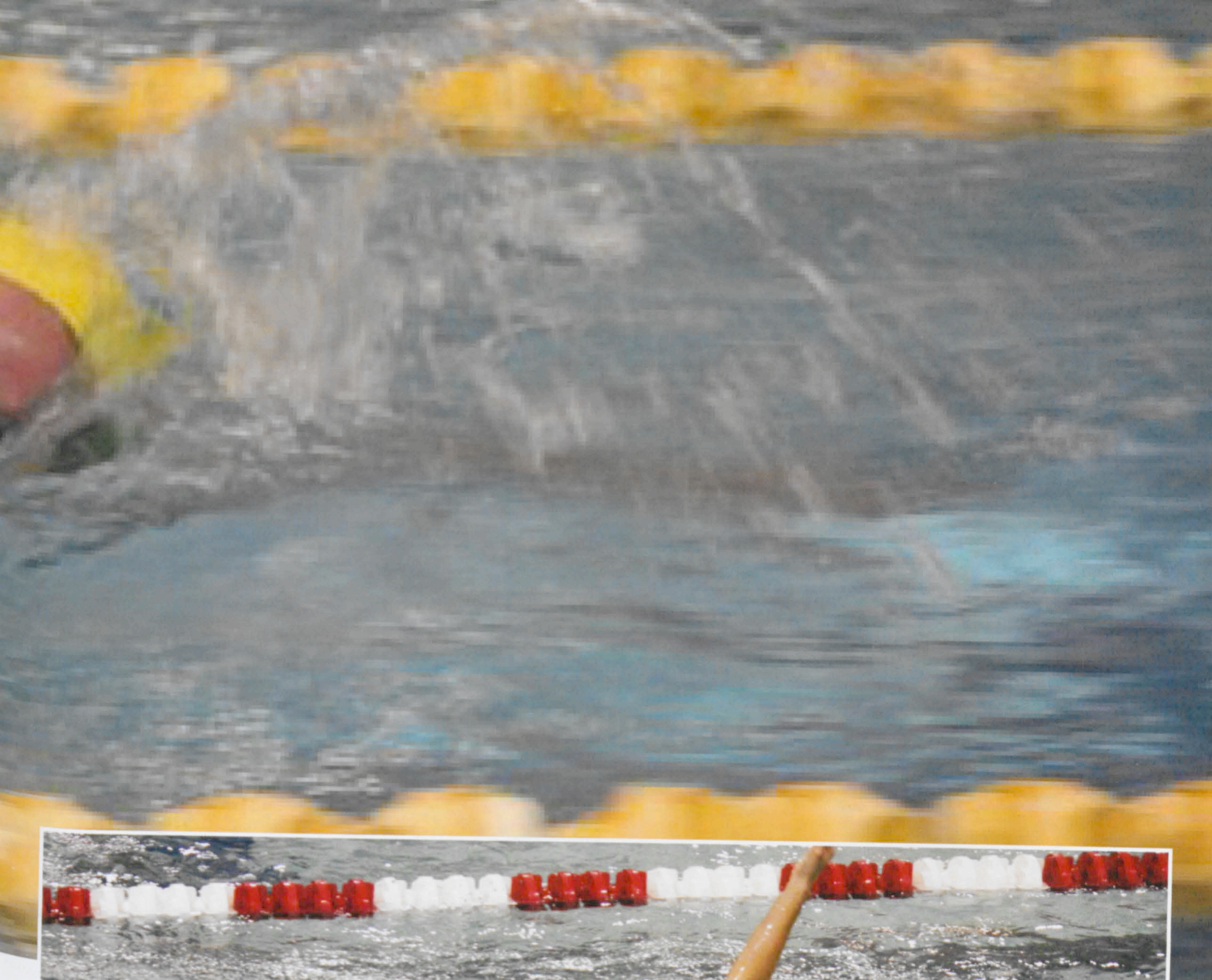
The Colonials were down a mere six points prior to the final event, the 400-meter freestyle relay. The first relay team that won the event consisted of sophomores Melissa Fernandez, Taylor Cole and Caroline Myers as well as freshman Morgan Zebley. They finished

in 3:39.56. The other relay team, made up of freshmen Brittany Liedholm and Bianca Valenica, senior Sameera Al Bitar and sophomore Lindsay Moore, finished in third place with a time of 3:46.57 and gave GW the victory.


"The crowd was on the edge of their seats and when GW finished in first and third, our team went wild," Moore reflected. "It was the most tantalizing, exciting meet that I have had the chance to be a part of at GW."

No one was more proud than head coach Dan Reinhart. "I couldn't be happier or more impressed with how these swimmers stepped up today," he said. "They deserved this win."

The team lost two seniors this year, Sameera Al Bitar and Caroline Mehrtens. Both swimmers swam the 50, 100 and 200-yard freestyle events and hoped to have personal bests in the A-10 championships. The twelve sophomores hoped to lead the team into an even better and stronger season next year.



MARCO, POLO!

 The Men's Water Polo Team was infused with young players

Animated and energetic crowds cheered as the George Washington men's water polo team scored their way towards success in the 2011-2012 season. The young team lacked seniors, however this did not deter them from leadership. The freshman, sophomore and junior players got to know each other, both in and out of the water, and pin-pointed the strengths and weaknesses of their team. The cooperation and mutual understanding that the team gained this past season promised victorious results for the future. "This season we learned to work with each other," freshman Ridvan Pehlivan said. "Next season we will use our known strengths to our advantage in order to achieve our goals." The underclassmen team showed signs of a powerful team in upcoming years. Head Coach Scott Reed continued to strengthen his team as he scouted for top recruits in and out of the country.

Noted highlights of the season included the home and away games against John Hopkins University. GWU hosted the first Hopkins game on Sept. 24. The lead switched back and forth, but the buff and blue prevailed with a 14-13 win. Sophomore attack Daniel Tyner netted a career-high nine goals. George Washington furthered their sweep against Hopkins on Oct. 19. The team managed a come back victory of 15-13 and it marked their first win in Baltimore since 1998. The placement of sophomore Dan Tyner on a Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) Southern Division All-Conference Team for the second year in a row marked another honorable achievement for the water polo team. At the close of the year, the team expressed excitement for the next season. "We looked forward to continue and extend our momentum to next year," freshman Rafi Castillo said.

❖ Story | Emma Raser



TAWNEY, BERDINI	1:45.05	2009	200 MEDLEY RELAY	CHAMPNEY, FORTUNY	1:31.44	1999
MIGA, LEOR				SIMONETTI, DE WET		
...S, RASMUSON	3:50.53	2004	400 MEDLEY RELAY	CHAMPNEY, TAYLOR	3:19.83	1998
...EL, FAGLEY				SIMONETTI, BOCANEGRA		
	1:35.93	2009	200 FREE RELAY	BOCANEGRA, SERINO	1:22.01	1999
...y. SAUNDERS	1:35.93	2011		DE WET, CHAMPNEY		
... SAUNDERS,	3:28.08	2011	400 FREE RELAY	DE WET, CHAMPNEY	3:01.74	1999
Sy. SAUNDERS				TETER, BOCANEGRA		
...OLE,	7:34.01	2011	800 FREE RELAY	CHAMPNEY, CORALLO	6:43.58	1999
NDERS, MYERS				TETER, BOCANEGRA		





Water Warriors

The Colonials placed ninth at the CWPA Eastern Championships

GW closed the 2012 season 12-15 overall, earning ninth place at Easterns. The Colonials dominated Mercyhurst in the ninth-place game of the CWPA Eastern Championship at Brown's Coleman Aquatic Center, beating the Lakers 13-6. Sophomore Rachael Bentley finished with three goals and three assists for a team-high six points and fellow sophomore Megan Brolley also netted a hat trick, which earned her Player of the Game. During the career final match of seniors Monica



Hanson and Megan Walker, the Colonials exploded with four unanswered goals to start the first period. Walker and Brolley split the four goals with two each for a comfortable 13-5 advantage with less than a minute to play. Walker's two goals increased her career total to 153, which ranked fourth in program history. Hanson also chipped in two goals and two assists in her final collegiate game.

"I will miss her incredible shots that I would tell were going in before they reached the cage," Hanson said of her friend

and teammate Walker.

Even with the departure of the team's two seniors, GW was slated to return 12 players to its 2013 roster, including three-time CWPA First Team All-South selection Allison Peotter, who missed the 2012 season while rehabbing from shoulder surgery. Next season promised to be interesting for the Colonials.



:: SQUASH BY THE NUMBERS

GEORGETOWN W, 9-0
 DREXEL W, 9-0
 HOBART W, 9-0
 DARTMOUTH L, 0-9
 HAVERFORD W, 9-0
 CONNECTICUT W, 5-4
 TRINITY L, 0-9
 BOWDOIN W, 8-1

PRINCETON L, 0-9
 NAVY L, 2-7
 STANFORD W, 8-1
 WILLIAMS L, 2-7
 MIDDLEBURY L, 2-7
 ST. LAWRENCE L, 2-7
 TUFTS UNIVERSITY W, 9-0
 BOSTON COLLEGE W, 9-0

BATES COLLEGE L, 2-7
 BOWDOIN W, 5-4
 VANDERBILT W, 9-0
 JOHNS HOPKINS W, 8-1
 FRANKLIN & MARSHALL L, 1-8
 STANFORD W, 8-1
 BOWDOIN W, 5-4
 COLBY W, 5-4

RACKING UP WINS



Men's squash had the best season yet winning the Summers Cup Championship

The men's squash team finished the season with their first time wins at the Summers Cup Championship against Colby College. The win marked their second appearance in the C division championship after the Colonials fell to Bowdoin last season, 5-4. Not only was the win great for the team overall, all three seniors won their final matches and finished their GW careers with a bang.

"The victory was incredibly sweet, it was revenge for losing last year to Bowdoin," Head Coach Wendy Lawrence said, "So it was a great way for our seniors to end their college careers." GW nabbed crucial wins in the top four positions of the ladder, three of which were straight-set victories from juniors Islam El-Fiky and Omar Sobhy and senior Jose Calderon. The match-winning fourth and fifth wins came from senior Adam Pistel and sophomore Larkin Brinkworth: "I was getting text messages and calls from many of our alumni after we beat Colby," Lawrence said. "They were really excited to see GW on the map like this. It was really a bright star for GW and the Athletic Department."

The Colonials lost three seniors this year, Adam Pistel, Jose Calderon and Brett Feldman. All three had notable athletic careers while at GW. Pistel recorded five victories against players from top-25 teams during his 2012-2011 season. Calderon went undefeated in his games against rival Georgetown and Feldman proved to be a great versatile player throughout his time at GW, recording victories from six different positions on the ladder.

Hatchet Reporter Jake Deitcher contributed to this report.



Photo Credit | Avra Bossov/GW Hatchet



★★★★★★★★★★ **COLONIAL SQUASH** ★★★★★★★★★★

SQUASHING THE OPPOSITION



The Lady Colonials swept their competition

The no. 14 ranked women's squash team started the season strong, only to lose their momentum during the middle of the season. However their tenacity pulled through in the end, concluding the season with yet another batch of wins, qualifying them for the College Squash Association Team Nationals. Prior to the start of the season, the team achieved its highest pre-season ranking in its history. It was an impressive feat for such a young team. Sophomores Jackie Shea and Kelly Barns set the precedent at the top of the ladder for a 9-0 sweep in the ladies opening season match against our district rivals, Georgetown University. The team kept their momentum for the next three games, pulling 9-0 sweeps in each match.

The middle of the season proved a bit difficult for the lady Colonials, dropping a total of six matches in two round-robin tournaments. However, this minor deficit did not hinder the team for a great end of season; gaining more W's on their result sheet and another complete 9-0 sweep against St. Laurence, allowing them to enter the CSA Walker Cup with great momentum.

At the Walker Cup, the Colonial's dominated Connecticut College in the first round and surprisingly upset Amherst College in the second. They then beat Wesleyan College in the finals 7-2. It was the second time in three years the Colonial's have won Nationals. "We weren't sure if we could pull this out," Coach Wendy Lawrence commented. "But when we did come through it was great. After we beat Amherst we knew that the finals would be easier for us. It was a great way to send off the three seniors this year."

The Squash team lost three seniors this year, Tiffany Hingley, Caroline Shumway, and Lauren Mathieu. All three won their final matches of their careers at nationals. With no juniors on the team, the Colonials would surely miss these leaders next year.

Hatchet Writer Jake Deitcher contributed to this report.
■ Photo Credit | Avra Bossov/GW Hatchet

Game, Set, Match

Men's Tennis brought home
championship title

The men's tennis team finished their season with a second consecutive A-10 Championship title. The No. 5 seeded tennis team competed against the No. 2 seeded Xavier at the Lidner Family Tennis Center on a spring afternoon. The victory earned GW its third title in GW history. "This was the best team I have ever coached," Head Coach Greg Munoz said. "It felt amazing to win the A-10 Championship as the fifth seed. I was so proud of how our guys faced adversity and fought so hard to win." Knotted at 3-3, No. 2 singles proved to be the decisive match for the second day in a row. Senior Ugur Atalay finished victorious to lift GW to its second straight crown. "It was so much pressure when the championship came down to my match," Atalay reflected. "As a senior, it felt great to win my last A-10 Conference match and help the team to win the title one more time."

"In four years Ugur has never let me down and today was no different. He and fellow senior Richard Blumenfeld showed tremendous maturity winning all of their matches in this tournament," Munoz said.

The team also racked up their conference's post-season awards. Coach Munoz earned his second straight Coach of the Year accolade after guiding GW to a 17-7 overall record and its second consecutive A-10 title, and freshman Francisco Dias was named both the league's Most Outstanding Performer and Most Outstanding Rookie Performer. "I knew Francisco was something special when I recruited him," Munoz said. "He proved it this year - to me and to his team. He really deserved both of these awards."

The two seniors, Atalay and Bloomfield would be sorely missed next year as the team would compete for its three-peat, but the team was left in great hands with Munoz and Dias leading the way for future titles.





A Match for the Ages

Women's Tennis finished their season with a win against St. Josephs, but fell short during the A-10 quarterfinal

The women's tennis team closed out the season with an overall record of 16-7 and a 3-3 mark in the A-10. The No. 6 seeded Colonials lost in their A-10 quarterfinal match against No. 3 seeded Richmond. The Colonials took a 1-0 lead after securing the doubles point, but the Spiders claimed victories at the No. 1, 3, 4 and 5 singles spots to take the match. The team dominated in their last regular season game against St. Joseph 6-1. GW opened the match with the doubles point, winning all three flights. "We haven't played



too many teams who serve and volley a lot, so we adjusted by hitting a lot of short balls right at their feet, which made it hard for them to hit when they were trying to volley," senior Zoe Krohn said. It was GW's fourth consecutive victory, and the only point the Hawks scored was just the second point the Colonials allowed in four matches. The win also ended Saint Joseph's own three-match win streak. At the St. Joseph's match, the three seniors, Jaqueline Corba, Meg Tyner and Krohn were commemorated

for their four years at GW. Tyner posted consistent scores over her tenure at GW, mostly at the no. 5 and no. 6 singles positions, including a 13-6 record during her sophomore year after returning from injury. Krohn spent the last three years as a piece of the No. 1 doubles team, securing a team-best doubles record of 15-7. Corba, who has played as the No. 1 singles player since her sophomore year, earned A-10 All-Conference First Team honors for the past two seasons.



From Downtown

The men's basketball team played for new coach during 2011-2012 season

The Colonials had an overall record of 10-21 and an A-10 record of 5-11 which qualified them as the No. 11 seed for the A-10 Championships. This year marked the fifth consecutive year that the team lost in the first round of the A-10 championships. The only difference this year was it was the first A-10 loss for new Head Coach Mike Lonergan.

The Colonials played against Dayton in their final match. Lonergan described the game just like any other of the season. "The game was kind of typical of our season. We got down a lot, we fought to come back, plenty of time, plenty of timeouts and



we just made a bad play. It was kind of our season in a nutshell there," he said. "We shot 34 percent, including 21 percent from threes. You can play all the defense you want, but you've got to score more than 50 points."

The season may have ended with a somber and disappointing loss, but Lonergan did not give up on his team. He knew there would be a tough transition period in order to turn the Colonials into a winning team. "We haven't been past the first round, or even in it," Lonergan said. "I just think we've got to change the mentality. Winning breeds winning. When you're not a good team, the breaks don't go your way; we've got to get everyone

working harder in our program. For the kids we recruit, that's going to be the mentality."

The Colonials graduated four seniors this year: Tony Taylor, Aaron Ware, Jabari Edwards and Michael Conward. Both Ware and Taylor played in all 118 games in four seasons while Edwards played in 89 career games. Senior walk-on Conward played a total of 7 games. With the loss of four strong players, the team had a lot of work to do to live up to Lonergan's vision for the next season.

FULL COURT PRESS

Women's Basketball finished 11-17

The Colonials started the season with great hopes for the A-10 conference, winning their first game against Fordham 54-43. It was the first time the team launched the A-10 season with a victory since the 2007-08 season when the team reached the Sweet Sixteen during March Madness. Junior Danni Jackson, following one of the best performances of her career of 22 points against William and Mary, netted 23 points and senior Tara Booker posted at least 18 points for the third straight game.

The A-10 season looked to be an exciting one for the women. However, after a series of straight losses and multiple injuries, the Colonials finished their season at the number 10 position leading into the A-10 conference tournament.

Head Coach Mike Bozeman believed that the injuries really hurt the Colonials season. "The injuries started in the beginning and there was really a change in how we wanted to play from that point on," he said. "It was a season of adjustments and a season of tinkering to try to adjust to losing players."

At the first round game against Duquesne, the Colonials left the court at halftime down 26 points, and after struggling all night to find a rhythm on defense, GW eventually lost the first tournament game 69-55. Yet, the players never gave up throughout the entire game. "At no point did I ever have to push effort," Bozeman commented. "That's something that a coach never wants to do and that's a testament to the girls playing hard. I'm very proud of them in that aspect of it."

The Colonials had not won a conference tournament game since 2008, and fell in the first round last season, as well. It was a disappointing way to say goodbye to the four seniors.

Kristin Aldridge, Tiana Myers, Tara Booker and Sara Mostafa all graduated. Transfer Kristen Aldridge struggled with a shoulder injury last season, but managed to recover and play for 31 minutes during the Georgetown match. Starting guard Myers would sorely be missed the next season, having started 28 of 29 games played. Booker would be on the record board as the no. 8 all-time scorer at GW with 115 three-pointers in 66 career games (115-342). GW also said farewell to Mostafa, whose key rebounds kept GW in winning contention. Next year's team would have some big shoes to fill.





Row Your Boat

Men's Rowing had a strong 2011-2012 season

The George Washington men's rowing team concluded its 2011-12 season at the IRA National Championships on the Cooper River. The Varsity 8 boat finished in fourth place. "It was a really strong race for the Varsity 8," Head Coach Mark Davis said. "They were a little disappointed but we were only .15 seconds behind Dartmouth and five seconds behind Northeastern, the winning crew. When we raced them (Northeastern) at the end of March they beat us by 16 seconds, so there has been improvement."

The Freshman 8 boat finished in sixth place in its final, but the team gained a wealth of experience this season for future improvements. The Colonials graduated just two members of their varsity crew: senior Taylor Lindman and coxswain Kathryn Suarez-Quijano. This made Coach Davis really optimistic for the future seasons. "This season we got a lot faster as we went forward, so that bodes well for the future of the program," he said. "It gets the guys motivated to continue working hard over the summer. Our performance that weekend gave us something to shoot for when we come back next year."







Cruise Control

Women's Rowing
earned second place at
A-10 Championships

The women's rowing team performed a consistently strong season and earned them second place at the A-10 Championships. The team concluded an impressive regular season by recording three top three finishes at the Eastern Sprints. One of the best memories from the season was the first place finish at our own Potomac River. The 25th

annual George Washington University Invitational Regatta featured nine teams, and during two early days the women were able to finish first place overall and were awarded the Wilkins Trophy. "This regatta is 25 years old and the Wilkins Trophy has only been in our hands three times," Head Coach Eric Carcich said. "So that was a really special day for GW." The

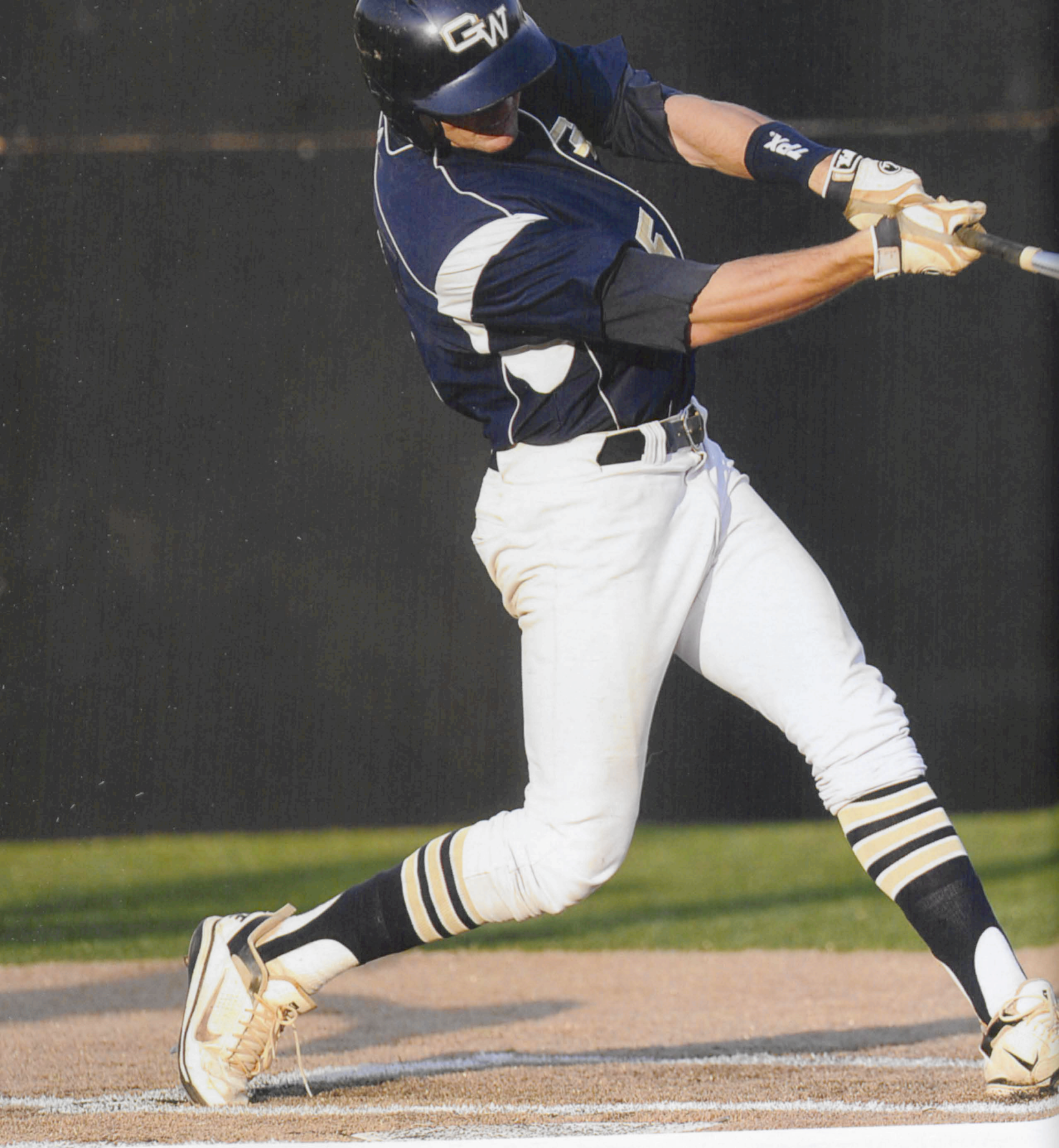


women's Varsity 8 won three races over the weekend, including a victory over Navy by .7 seconds on the 2,000 meter course. This narrow win over Navy, a race in which the teams were never more than a half length apart, was the highlight of the weekend. "It was really great that our girls were able to stay focused on their task and do what they did, Carcich said. "Those races with Navy in the final of the

Varsity 8 and the JV 8 were really special race to be involved in. When you win by an arm's length, it's a pretty fun race to be on the right side of it."

The team will miss all of their seniors next year, especially Maryann Grunseth who made the A-10 All-Conference First Team and MacKenzie Hovermale who made the A-10 Academic All-Conference Team. The Colonials planned to return to

the water the next year with Junior Anna Kaminski and sophomores Bethany Grim and Megan Culberson, who were all honored to the All-Conference teams.

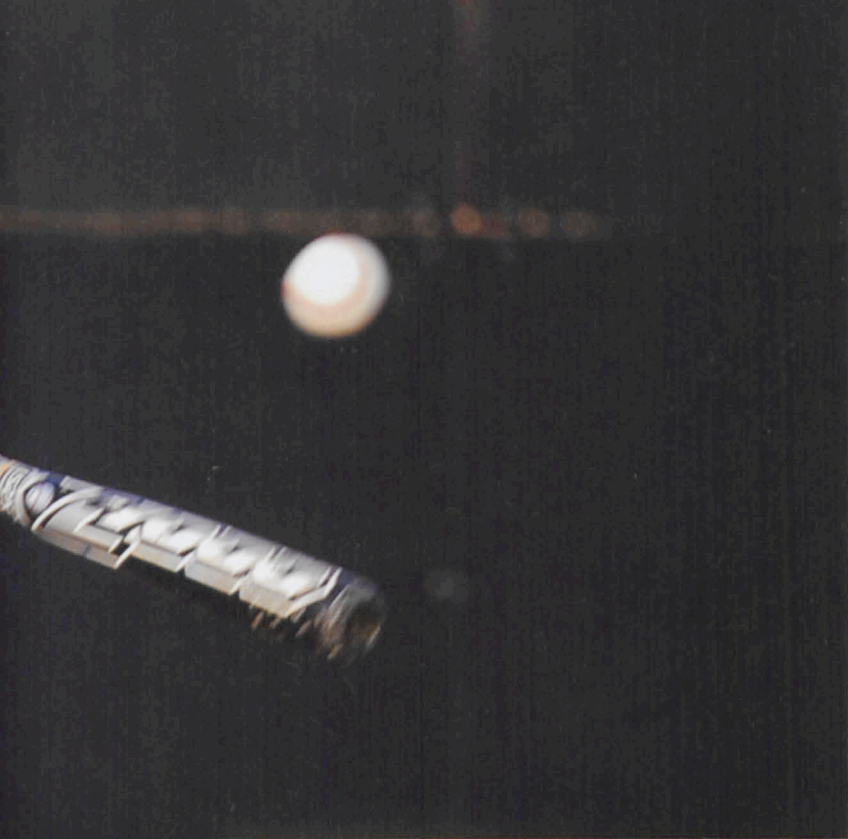


Batting To New Heights

A strong season for GW baseball

The baseball team said goodbye to seven seniors this year. Brett Bowers, Stephen Oswald, Jimmy Best, Ryan Thomas, Luke Mirabella, Ollie Mittag and Eric Lara all finished their GW athletic careers with a slightly disappointing season. The team finished with a record of 20-35 and 13th in the Atlantic 10. Despite the disappointing outcome, many individual players were recognized for their individual efforts.

Oswald was named the 2012 recipient of the Jackie Robinson Award by GW's Jackie Robinson Society for exhibiting qualities that reflected the attributes of the legendary sports hero. Oswald received



the honor prior to the Colonials' game against St. Bonaventure on April 21. As a four year starter, he was referred to as "a team leader in every sense of the word" by head coach Steve Mrowka.

Another notable achievement was that of junior Kenny O'Brien was named to the A10 Baseball Academic All-Conference Team, which was his first, and hopefully not last, selection. O'Brien concluded his third season with the Colonials by leading the team and ranking third overall in the conference with a 2.76 ERA. Lastly, catcher Best was on the watch list for

the 2012 Johnny Bench Award, an acknowledgement awarded to the nation's top Division I catcher based on athletic ability, sportsmanship, team leadership and character.

Although the team lost seven players and their head coach Mrowka, the team looked forward to the next year in order to rework and follow guidance by the new coach.



Big League Bats

GW Women's Softball had a record-breaking season

The women's softball team concluded their season 25-30 overall, breaking the program record for wins in a season. After being picked to finish eighth in the A-10 preseason poll and starting the season 9-23, the Colonials won 16 of their 23 games to earn the No. 4 seed in the A-10 Championship, and also reached the tournament's final game for the first time in program history. However, the team had a heartbreaking loss, falling to top-seeded Massachusetts 3-2 on a walk-off home run in the bottom of the seventh inning.

"All around, it was a really strong offensive effort," Head Coach Stacey Schramm said. "And it came from our leadoff



to our number nine hitter. They were very disciplined at the plate, waiting for their pitch."

Even though the team fell slightly short of a championship, senior Heidi Penna, freshman Victoria Valos and senior Kara Clauss were named to the All-Tournament Team. Valos batted a team-best .368 with two doubles, three homers, seven RBIs and six runs scored. Penna went 2-1 with a 2.10 ERA in 20.0 innings of work, while Clauss was 1-1 with two saves and a 0.68 ERA in 20.2 innings pitched, including a 14-inning complete game victory over Fordham in the semifinal game. In addition to this honor, Clauss and fellow senior Lauren

Wilson were named to the All-Conference second team while Valos was selected to the all-rookie team. "Lauren was just amazing," Schramm said. "We named her captain a few weeks into the season just because of all the work she put in."

The team had an impressive comeback season and even though they lost six seniors-- Wilson, Clauss, Penna, Jamie Yaniga, Jordyn O'Donnell and Jillian Stanley-- the team was expected to be even stronger the next season.

The GW Hatchet contribute to this report.

Par For The Course

GW golf took on the competition

The men's golf team performed extremely well in the 2011-2012 season. At the beginning of the season, freshman Jack Persons set a new GW men's golf record by finishing with a 54-hole total of 9-under-par 207 at the the Old Dominion/Outerbanks Collegiate. Persons beat GW alumnus Brian Carroll's ('06) previous 36- and 54-hole scores from 2005. "The team and I could not have been happier or more proud of Jack," Head Coach Terry Shaffer said. "This was an extremely talented pool of players, and to finish ahead of several top-notch guys said a lot about Jack and his ability."

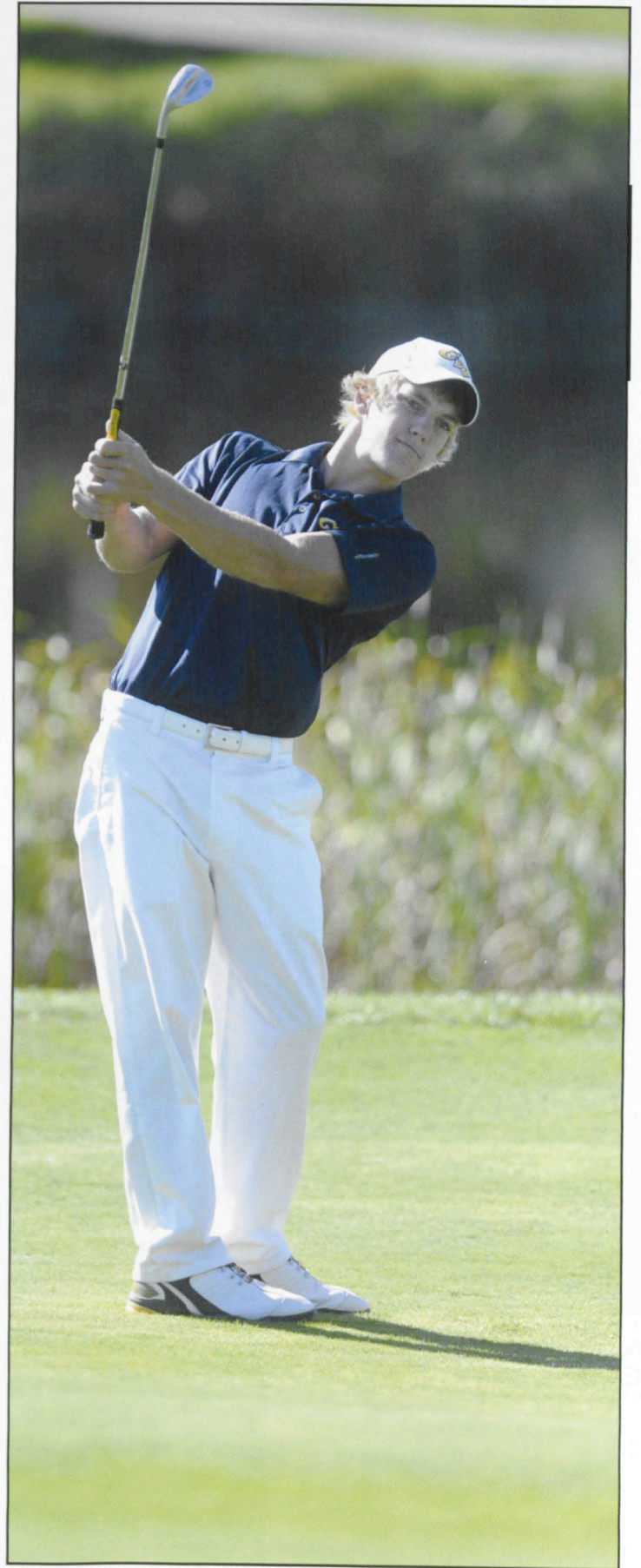
Later on in the year, the No. 6 seeded team snatched up their first ever A-10 Championship Trophy and qualified for the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2006, and the first ever under Shaffer. In addition, senior Andres Pumariega was named to the All-Conference Team, and Shaffer was given the 2012 A-10 Coach of the Year award. "It felt incredible to win this my senior year," Pumariega said. "Everyone really stepped up this weekend. It was a complete team effort."

The Colonials finished with an impressive 13th place tie at the NCAA tournament in Greensboro. Overall, it was an impressive year for the golfers of GW.

The team lost four seniors this year: Pumariega, Martin Liu, Brandon Rukin and Taylor Fuqua.

Pumariega was named to the 2012 NCAA Division I PING All-Northeast Region Team, was the co-Champion of the Kiawah Classic, the MVP for GW to years in a row and named to the A-10 All-Academic Team. The four seniors led the team this year but with Persons as a freshman, there was great hope for other impressive seasons and awards to come.





Offensive Dominance

Women's Lacrosse
put up big numbers

The women's lacrosse team had high scoring games in the 2012 season, but none as exciting as the back and forth matchup against top-ranked La Salle.

The Colonials forced overtime in their game against A-10 rival La Salle, where the Colonials handed the Explorers their first in-conference loss. GW allowed only six goals—the defense's lowest allowed all season—but the battle against Temple came down to offensive skill.

In the final two minutes of overtime, freshman Nicole Lacey scored on a put-back goal, lifting the Colonials to a 7-6 win on the road. Lacey was named A-10 Rookie of the Week after this performance. The Colonials' offense was ignited after scoring three unanswered goals in less than three minutes. The Explorers fought back with a surge of their own, but GW carried the momentum into overtime, outshooting the Explorers 8-4 in extra play.

"I think we came out with a lot of energy," Head Coach Tara Hannaford said. "We had some younger girls on the field and I think they brought their youth and rejuvenated some of the upperclassmen."

The Colonials' final performance of the season was also a high scoring matchup, but favored Duquesne. Despite going on a 6-0 run during a seven minute span, the Colonials were unable to hang on. Still, Hannaford said that the team showed promise with their team chemistry.

"I think we've clicked a little better on the field," Hannaford said. "They really supported each other a lot better."

GW did not make it to the A-10 tournament, but stayed in the top half of their conference all season, showing that they were a team to be reckoned with.







MAKE IT OR BREAK IT

GW gymnastics team scored big at League Championships

The gymnastics team totaled a season-high score of 194.050 at the East Atlantic Gymnastics League (EAGL) Championships. Unfortunately the Colonials still finished in seventh place overall. Senior Monica Blount led the Colonials on the floor exercise with a career-high 9.875. Juniors Stephanie Stoicovy and Nefertiti Roy tied with 9.850 to help GW to a team score of 49.025, the Colonials' best event of the meet. Despite the seventh place finish, four gymnasts qualified for the NCAA's regionals.

Sophomore Kiera Kenney, freshman Elena Corcoran, Blount and Stoicovy competed against some of the most premier gymnasts from around the country at the NCAA regional championships. Stoicovy tied for 15th place on the floor exercise with a 9.825. She added a 9.100 on vault, 9.550 on uneven bars and 9.000 on balance beam to place 13th in the

all-around with 37.475. Corcoran concluded her debut season at GW by landing a 9.800 on vault to tie for 17th place in the event. Kenney tied for 21st overall on the uneven bars with a 9.725, while Blount scored a 9.550 on the beam.

At the EAGL Banquet, Stoicovy was named to the All-EAGL First Team on both the floor exercise and all-around, and Blount garnered First-Team honors on the balance beam. Senior Amanda Murphy and freshman Courtney Willoughby were honored to the All-EAGL second team for all-around. It was a great year for personal records.

Seniors Blount, Murphy and Brittany Burnham completed their four-year careers at GW this year. All the Colonials played a pivotal leadership role in order to push the team to achieve their high scores at each meet.

Baseball



Softball



Cross Country



● Women's Rowing



● Men's Rowing



● Women's Soccer



● Men's Soccer



Lacrosse



Volleyball



Squash

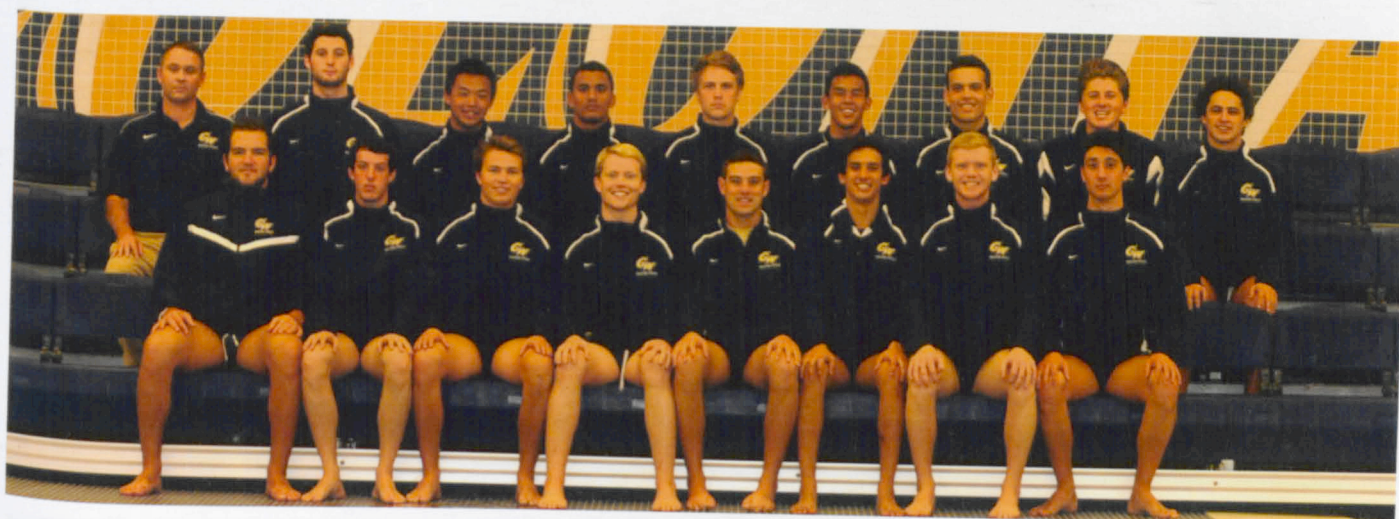




● Women's Tennis



● Men's Tennis



● Men's Water Polo



● Women's Water Polo

● Men's Basketball



● Women's Basketball



● Men's Golf





● Men's Swimming



● Women's Swimming



● Gymnastics



PEOPLE



JASON LIFTON

:: renaissance man

Story | Marissa Glauberman

Jason Lifton, former Student Association President, was perhaps one of the most recognizable faces on campus. His presence and influence did not go unnoticed by the student body, faculty and staff. His head held high and always smiling, Jason was a natural politician who took the time to hear the needs and concerns of GW students. In fact, he was notorious amongst his friends for taking an hour to get across campus because he stopped to have a conversation with everyone that he ran into.

Therefore, it was not surprising that Jason had an incredibly successful term as Student Association President, and following his graduation in 2011 continued his service with GW in the Office of the Senior Vice President. He was behind the scenes of many of the new programs and developments at the University. As SA President, Jason was proud of his advocacy accomplishments, most notably the role that he played in getting the Gelman Library renovation project off the ground. In 2012, he was busy building up the Clinton Global Initiative University program on campus, promoting professional staff development programs and participating in division wide programs aiming to link staff and students.

The quintessential "GW multi-tasker," Jason was simultaneously earning his M.B.A. in the Graduate School of Business. His success as an undergraduate and his ongoing commitment to GW could be largely attributed to his passion, work ethic and his philosophy of "walking with your head up." As an undergraduate, Jason left his mark on the University. We eagerly wait to hear of his accomplishments as his work with the Senior Vice President unfolds.









MELISSA MCCUTCHEON

:: inspired & inspirational

Story | Natalie Kornicks

I always knew I wanted to be an artist. Since I was eight. Weird," Professorial Lecturer in painting Melissa McCutcheon said.

After teaching at a variety of places including universities, art centers and museums, McCutcheon took what she describes as an "escape route from New York," where she was living for the five years leading up to moving to D.C. Then, in 2010, she became an adjunct professor at GW.

"I really love to travel and to experience different cultures in general, and the U.S. is so full of interesting subcultures so I thought, 'where would I like to go next?'" McCutcheon

said. "So there you have it! I plopped down here in D.C. literally the day before the snowpocalypse."

Although she considers herself an artist first who happens to teach, McCutcheon was also an adventurer. Her extensive travels across the U.S., Eastern Europe, India and the Southern Caribbean, as well as exploration on the personal level, were the driving forces behind her work as an oil painter.

"Whether in a foreign and faraway location, or at a bus stop near my home, I find myself captivated by the same kinds of people and landscapes; ones that communicate across language and cultural barriers—a simultaneous sense of connection and displacement," McCutcheon said. "This theme has laced my entire life."

Born in Seattle, Wash., McCutcheon attended Pacific Lutheran University for one year, Seattle University for a year and a half and finally Saint Olaf College, where she completed her B.A. in Fine Arts. She received a M.F.A. in Painting from Washington University in St. Louis.

While she never envisioned transferring colleges twice, McCutcheon said that her "winding road actually provided [her] with a lot of insight as to what it felt like to be lost, confused and scared about the future,"

insight that she imparted to her students.

"I try to operate from a position of genuine interest in their growth as artists and human beings. Each and every one of them has artistic and life

"I always knew I wanted to be an artist. Since I was eight."

potential that is unique, and it is my job to help them discover how to merge and manifest the ideas and talents that are specific to their individuality," McCutcheon said. "In other words, to develop their own unique artistic voice."

Since teaching at GW, McCutcheon has taught Narrative Practice in Painting, 2-D Design, Drawing I, Drawing II and Watercolor I. She said she prefers to rotate different classes as much as possible to keep the experience fresh and spontaneous for herself as an instructor, yet she liked teaching 2-D Design and advanced painting courses the most.

"I love teaching 2-D Design because of the diversity of projects—advanced painting courses were great as well because I could exercise my conceptual muscles," McCutcheon said. "I can get crazy creative in my thinking...you may have noticed."

VICTORIA HARTMAN

campus role model

Story | Kevin Callahan

Since she was a freshman, Victoria Hartman has worked for the University in fundraising and development. As a senior about to graduate, Hartman reached the height of her fundraising career at GW. During her senior year she worked as the 2012 Senior Class Gift Coordinator and was responsible for all senior contributions as well as the oversight of 40 student volunteers. The 2012 Senior Class Gift Campaign was especially significant this year as a result of GW trustee Nelson Carbonell's,

SEAS '85, 50 for 50 Challenge. Carbonell's challenge called for 50% participation by the senior class and in turn he would

donate \$50,000 in scholarships, which would result in the largest Senior Class Gift in history. Students were encouraged to donate because of the unique ability to give to any part of the University - student organizations, academic departments, individual schools, etc.

For Hartman, this year's Senior Class Gift Campaign was particularly special. "As a scholarship recipient myself, I knew I wouldn't be able to go to GW without that financial aid," she said. Hartman's passion for the campaign extended beyond her personal experiences at GW. She stressed the sense of community gained through the action of giving back. "It was a way for seniors to reflect on all that they've accomplished," she reflected. "I think people forget how far they've come since they were freshmen. She also emphasized her love for GW's privileged location in

Washington, D.C. "I liked the feeling that you got walking on the streets. There's a different kind of excitement that other cities don't have. It's small enough that I could call Washington 'my city,'" she said. "I discovered new things all the time, but it still felt familiar and I think that's what brought all Washingtonians together."

Freshman year was also Hartman's first experience in fundraising for the University as a Colonial Caller with Colonial

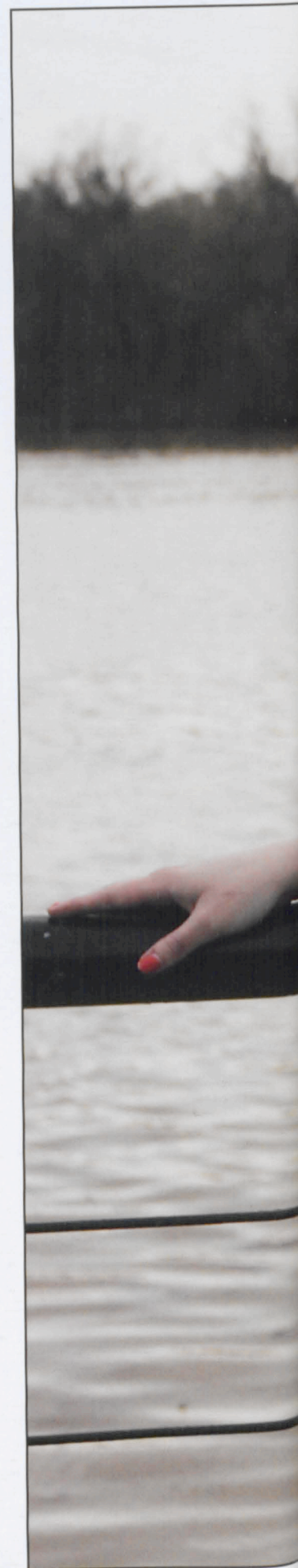
Connection.

Though she was not sure of her plans after graduation, she had an idea of what her initial career path would look like. "I would like to stay in development and

fundraising," she said confidently. Having been accepted into the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration at GW, Hartman undoubtedly had an excellent platform of support while she figured out exactly what she would like to do with her life.


One thing that was certain was that whatever Hartman does in her future, the communication skills she developed throughout her undergraduate career would definitely play a role. She was highly convincing in discussing the benefits and meaningfulness of senior class giving for all seniors, not just the most school-spirited ones. "You didn't need to have had the perfect experience to give back," she said. "You weren't giving to the GW abyss, you were giving to something specific and meaningful that touched you during your experience here at GW."

*"People forget
how far they've
come since they
were freshmen."*









Christopher Tudda

FRUS Follower

Story | Christina Wald

It was very rare for a professor to receive only positive reviews on the infamous website ratemyprofessor.com. Professor Christopher Tudda's top three comments on the page were: "LOVE THIS MAN", "Teachers like this are what makes college worth it" and "Perhaps the best professor I have ever had."

Tudda made the Cold War an interesting topic to a student that hates history and a GCR one of the most memorable classes at GW. His passion for the subject in addition to his love for teaching was the perfect combination for making a lasting impression on tons of students from different majors.

Originally a political science major at the University of Vermont, Tudda randomly took the class "U.S. History since 1865" and immediately decided to change his major to history. He eventually acquired his Ph.D. at American University. "I couldn't stand

theory; it just bored me," he reflected on why he changed his major. While studying for his Ph.D., Tudda managed to get hired in the State Department at the Office of the Historian and was asked in 2007 to fill in for his fellow co-worker to teach a class at GW. "I always wanted to be a Professor, so I was thrilled to take the job." Since then, Tudda has been a coveted professor for his Cold War classes.

Tudda was so beloved by his student because he truly loved teaching and was constantly learning from his students.

"I always read through my term papers and at least once a semester I read a paragraph and thought "Oh!

"I know you might find it weird, but I love reading papers and interacting with students."

Cool!" And that is what history is: new opinions surfacing each day on different documents from the past." The FRUS follower loved teaching so much, that if he had to choose between working at the State Department or teaching, "teaching, hands down. I know you might find it weird, but I love reading papers and interacting with students."

ROGER WHITAKER

⌘ jack of all trades

Story | Maggie McConnell

Engaged, inspiring, cultured, intelligent, personable, traveled and invested are a few words that Professor Roger Whitaker's students used to describe him. He acquired these traits from a variety of personal and professional experiences that have shaped the professor he is today.

Whitaker attributed his life in academia to his experiences in the Peace Corps. He joined right after college and worked as a history teacher in an isolated village in Ethiopia for two years. Whitaker believes this hands-on learning experience directly shaped his career. "It became quite clear that working in education would guide my future, even if expressed in many different ways and in quite a few different places," he said. The outside experience that he brought to the classroom was clearly critical to his engaging teaching methods as well as credible course work.

In 2011-2012 Whitaker served as a professor in both the undergraduate human services program and the educational leadership department in the Graduate School of Education and Human Development. His undergraduate class, Ethical Leadership, was a service learning course where students partook in service projects throughout the semester that were linked with their course work. This created opportunities for the course to be applied directly to the student's life outside the classroom. This also allowed Whitaker to bring his life experiences into the classroom, from working as an Associate Vice President and Dean at GW to serving as a founding President for the American College of Sofia in Bulgaria. "Launching a new educational venture in Eastern Europe under trying conditions served me well as I have been a part of other challenging initiatives, such as serving as the first Dean for GW's College of Professional Studies," he said. "And besides, experiencing Balkan-style politics is pretty good training for working in higher education."

Learning about ethical leadership from a man who effectively practiced it generated a very authentic classroom experience. It was professors like Whitaker that made the GW academic experience so remarkable and engaging. "The pivotal points in my career were never foreseen," he said. "They just came along and I had to decide whether to take chances and trust myself that things would work out for the best. I hope our graduates will leave room in their intentions for the unexpected."

{ "The pivotal points in
my career were never
foreseen." }







Yoni Berhanu & Mike Burke

dynamic duo

Story | Meredith Shoenig

In their last season of college soccer, Yoni Berhanu and Mike Burke helped take the men's soccer team to the Atlantic-10 Championships for the first time since 2004. Berhanu, a midfielder, and Burke, a defender, were two of four seniors on the 2011 team. The unique skills of the duo allowed the team to have a dominating frontline offense and an aggressive back-end defense.

"With four seniors who had been together for four years, it was great for the team

to have a strong base of guys who had not only been on the team but started all four years," Burke said. "Our experience in itself was

a big help because we were able to convey how important each game is; how important each goal is, for the ultimate success of the season."

The Colonials earned the No. 2 seed in the A-10 Championship. "With such a poor 2010 season, we knew there needed to be a change," Burke said. That change came from a couple of sources. We set goals, but took one game at a time. It was key to not look too far ahead and focus on the next game as the most important."

Burke also commented on how Assistant Coach Craig Jones helped the team bond and encouraged them to believe they could win each game.

On Senior Day, Berhanu shot a 25-yard free kick in the 72nd minute of the game, which allowed the Colonials a 1-0 victory over Duquesne. This game also gave the

team their first A-10 regular season title since 1992

"Senior leadership definitely played a role in focusing the team as well, keeping everyone on track both on and off the field," Burke said.

In the 2011 season, Berhanu was named A-10 Men's Soccer Co-Player of the week, A-10 Midfielder of the year, and was named to the A-10 Championship All-Tournament Team. The offender ended his college career with 11 goals, four assists and 26

points. He tallied an impressive 20 goals in four seasons, which made him just shy of the 10th-best on GW's all-time list.

Burke was selected to the All-Atlantic 10 Second Team and continued to train

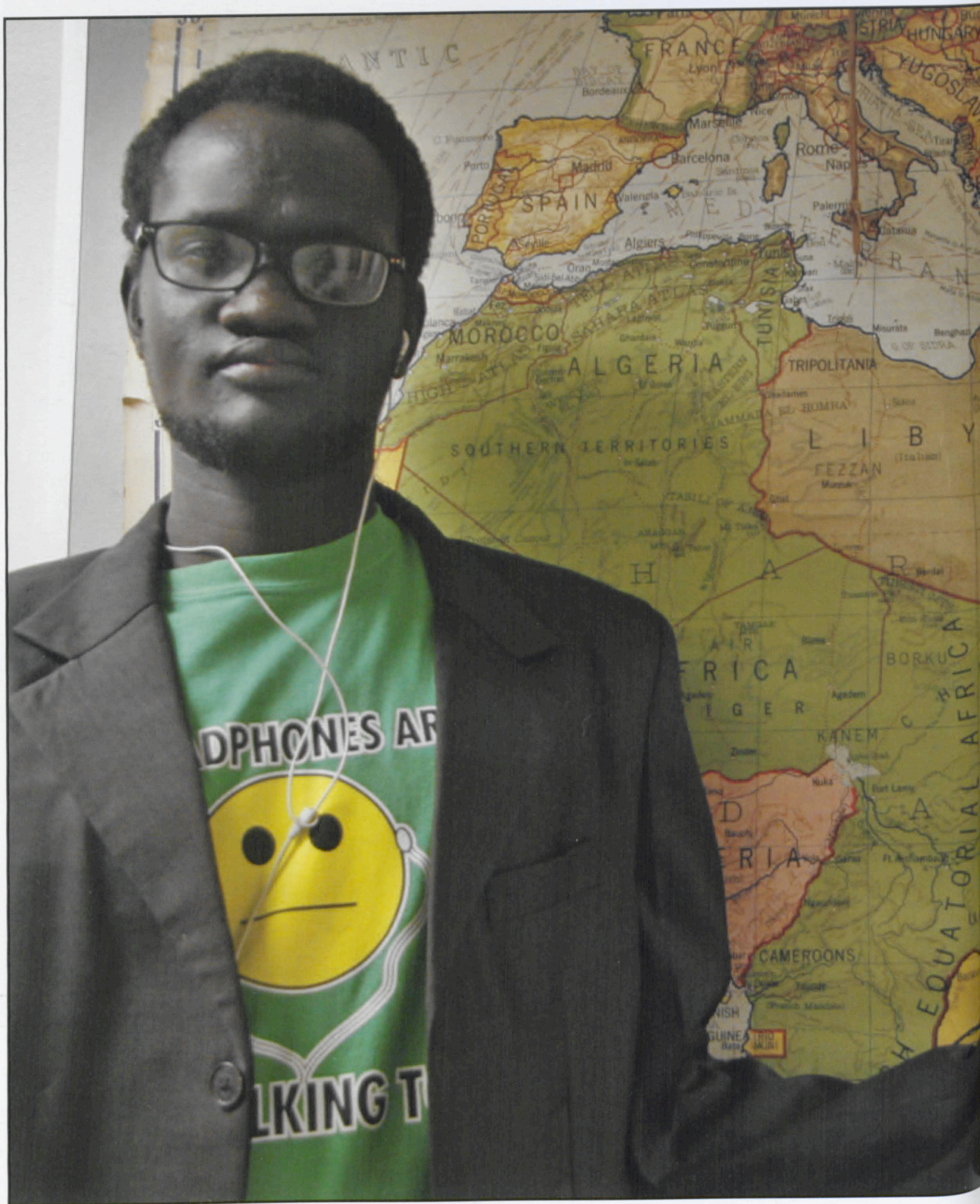
after the end of the season and continue his career.

"My hope is to play professionally and maybe get into coaching in the future," Burke said. "I'd like to stay in the sport at some capacity for the rest of my life."

The Colonials fell to Xavier on Nov. 13 in the A-10 Championship match. After an exhausting game ended in a tie, it went into overtime. After two scoreless periods, the men's team had a heartbreaking loss 4-3 in penalty kicks. However, the team's exceptional season kept their spirits high.

"Having seen talented teams fail because of problems that had nothing to do with soccer in the past, we were also able to instill how important it was to be focused off the field and not let anything outside of the team affect its success," Burke said.

"It was important to be focused on and off the field."





JOSEPH DENG

• a fresh perspective

Story | Jordyn Gottleib

Joseph Deng was certainly not your typical philosophy major. While most students at the University were finishing high school, Deng was already working at the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya, having lost his family due to the violence in southern Sudan. In 2007, Deng was able to take a major stride forward for himself and his homeland when he discovered Banaa.

When Makwei Maboor Deng – often called Joe by close friends – described coming to the U.S., particularly GW, he used phrases like “a dream come true” and “it was beyond what I had been praying for.” He was not exaggerating.

“For four years, I had been roaming the streets of the Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya searching for a scholarship,” he explained.

When Deng heard from Banaa, a nonprofit organization created by several GW

students in 2007, his wildest dream had been a scholarship to a university in Kenya. “I had never entertained a notion of ever setting my feet on U.S. soil, for it was beyond my imagination,” he said. “In the words of my mother on the day that we got the good news, ‘It was God’s answer to our prayers.’”

Deng was the recipient of a Banaa scholarship, which covered all the costs of his GW education. Banaa – which is the Arabic word for build – brought Sudanese students to the U.S. in order to receive a world class education and foster solutions to bringing about peace in Sudan. The only condition of

the scholarship was that Dang must return to Sudan after he finished his studies to help better conditions back home. Scholarship recipients returned to Sudan with a deeper understanding of the intricacies of conflict, which is what the country needed.

Deng said the skills he has learned will help him become a leader. “I wanted to understand reasoning, looking at things from a different perspective,” Deng said. “With philosophy, I try to understand different arguments and how you can make a plan.”

Deng said the four-year scholarship also gave him a chance to travel overseas and experience living with people of different backgrounds.

In Sudan, he said people spent most of their lives in one tribe speaking a common language, perpetuating divisions among different parts of the nation.

“If you just know one place and one way of life, once you come here, you learn

about new ideas, you learn how to interact with new people,” Deng said.

Through his philosophy studies, Deng found the best way to put his life experiences in perspective and to think ethically and holistically about the future of the southern Sudan. Looking ahead, he envisioned himself returning to his native country “with the relevant skills and resources to promote reconciliation, sustainable development and a long lasting peace in the Sudan.”

The George Washington University and the GW Hatchet contributed to this report.





AMANDA AULT

life coach

Story | Lucas Hagerty

Amanda Ault's personal volleyball career hit an all time high harder than any spike as a standout setter for the Central Michigan University Chippewas, but this year her athleticism and expertise shifted to the Colonials as GW's new head volleyball coach.

"I am thrilled and honored to accept the position as the head volleyball coach at The George Washington University," Ault said upon being hired. "I believe this is truly an exciting time for the future of George Washington athletics and I am looking forward to being a part of it all."

After coaching 17 A-10 All-Conference players, two A-10 Rookies of the Year, and two A-10 Players of the Year at Xavier University, where she worked from 2001-2007, Ault was determined to revamp GW's volleyball program on the court and in the stands.

"I told the team at practice that last season is in the past and we can either run from the past or learn from the past," Ault said. "Learning from the past is making changes and moving forward and that's what we're doing."

Under Ault's direction, the team started off the season with a 10-0 record, including a D.C. sweep of local rivals Georgetown, American, George Mason and Howard to win the D.C. Challenge Championship.

The start marked the best start to a season for the Colonials since the 2003 campaign. Ault also guided the Colonials to championships in the George Washington Invitational and the Third Degree Sportswear Invitational.

As Ault worked to make her team more competitive, she also worked to improve the team's home fan base.

"It's not just that we are getting people into the stands, but it is creating an atmosphere."

"It's not just that we are getting people into the stands, but it is creating an atmosphere now."

By the end of the season, Ault's team had created an atmosphere

that attracted the largest volleyball crowd in program history with a total of 1,317 fans in a game against Fordham University.

"The fans add legitimacy to the games. And not just for the players, but for the entire athletic staff too," Ault said. "We want to continue to grow and get as many students to come out as possible."

The Colonials ended Ault's first season winning 12 out of 13 of the games they played in front of the GW crowd in the Charles E. Smith Center, and finished 20-10, which qualified them for the A-10 Championship for the first time in years.

Sara Fischer

the only fisch in the sea

Story | Natalie Kornicks

She has been a membership assistant, an intern, an events assistant, a club lacrosse player, a president and an editorial cartoonist—but what does Sara Fischer really want to be?

"I would like to be a Jon Stewart or a Stephen Colbert, maybe a Kristen Wiig," Fischer said. "In my dreams, of course."

Originally from Watchung, New Jersey, Fischer decided to attend GW because she didn't think she would get bored in D.C., and she wanted a school "that could somewhat be considered Southern." Having

trouble deciding between being a political science major and a journalism major, she enrolled in the School

of Media and Public Affairs as a political communications major.

"SMPA was an awesome fit for me and I recognize that I am very lucky to have loved my major every step of the way," Fischer said.

But SMPA was not the only thing that was an awesome fit for her.

Fischer worked as the membership assistant at the Atlantic Media Company for the National Journal for two years, where

she mostly did business development.

"My favorite thing about it was the people, particularly my bosses. My least favorite thing was how bad my feet hurt after wearing heels all day."

She also worked as an events assistant at William Milligan Events, a firm that specializes in corporate and event planning, political fundraisers and strategic relationships and inductions.

On campus, Fischer was the president of her sorority, Sigma Delta Tau, and she

was also the president of the GW Panhellenic Association.

"My best friend went abroad and I needed something to keep me busy," Fischer said.

With her best friend gone, she

formed new relationships with both the Greek staff and the Panhellenic Executive Board.

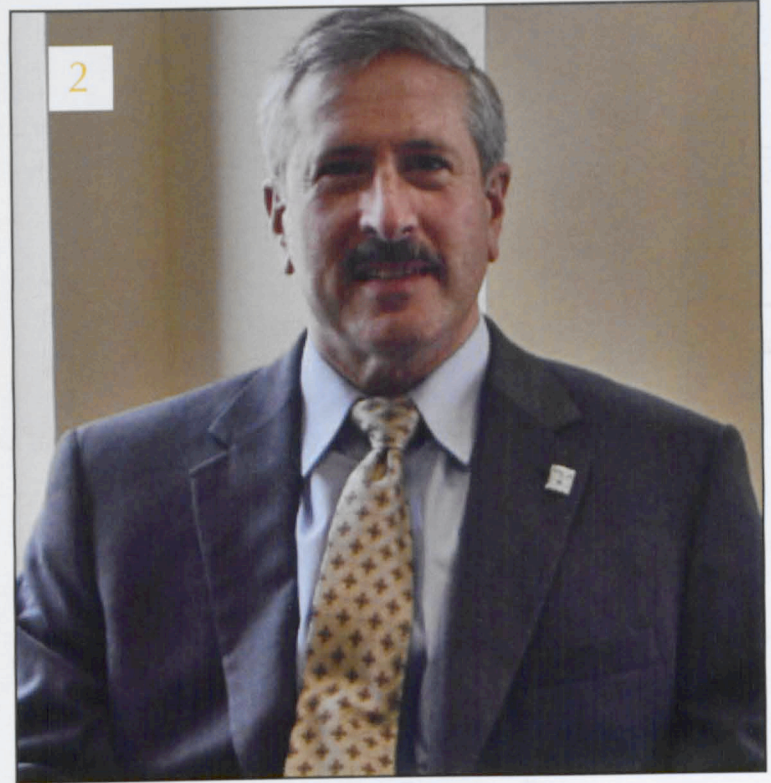
Although Fischer had significant political communications experience, worked as the editorial cartoonist for the Hatchet since she was a freshman, and helped out with GWTV and GW Radio, her thoughts leading up to graduation were the same as any other senior: "Where am I going to live next year? Do I still get access to the GW pool?"

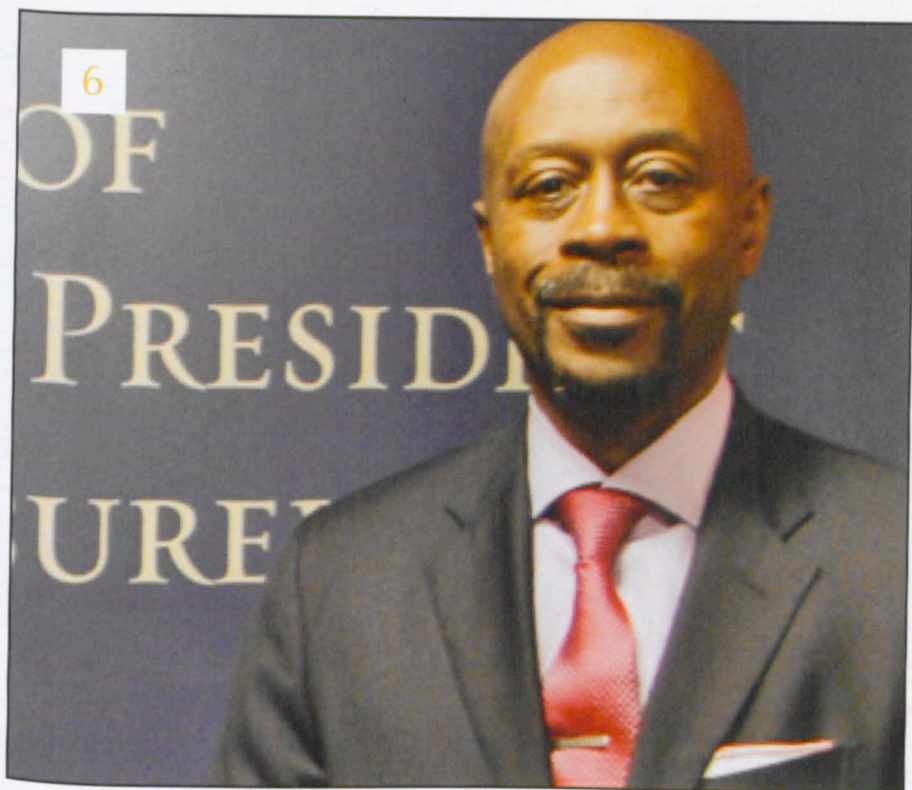
"I recognize that I am very lucky to have loved my major every step of the way."





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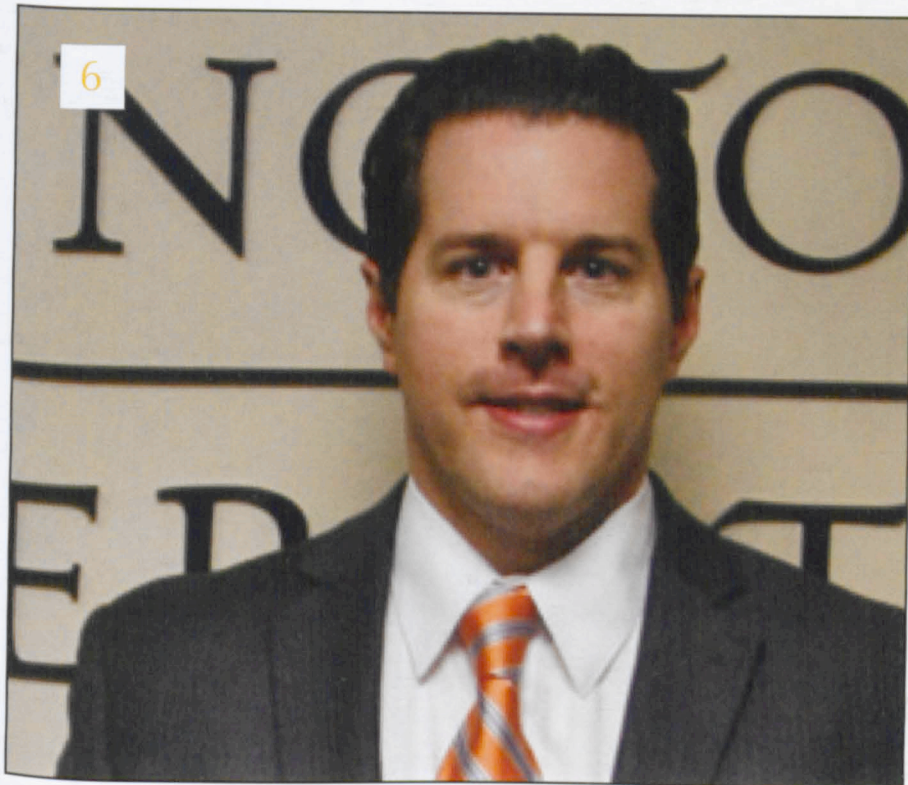
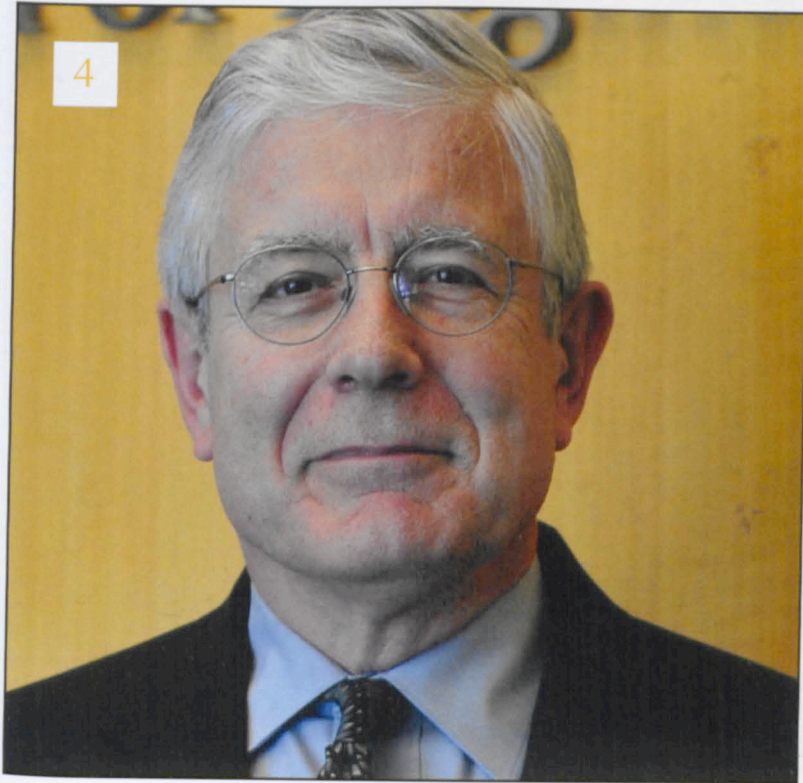




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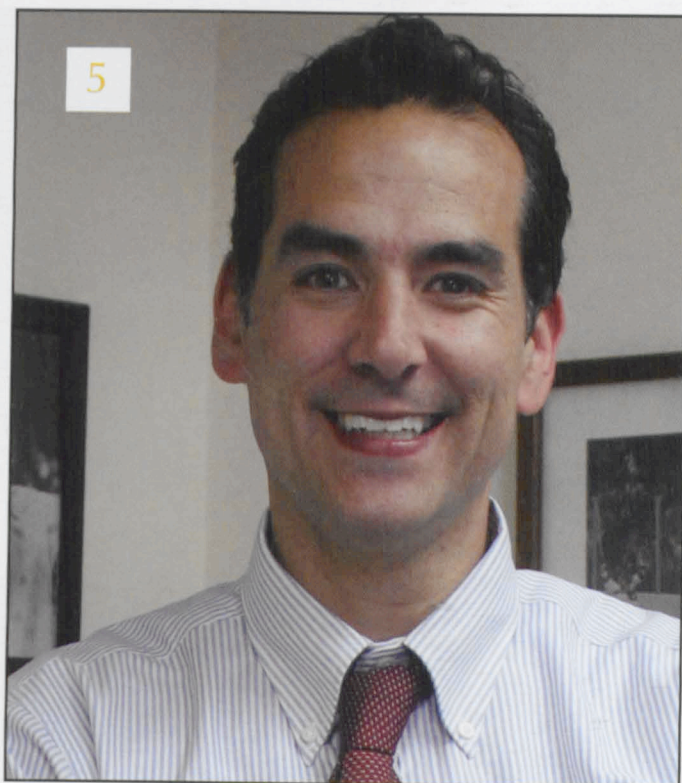


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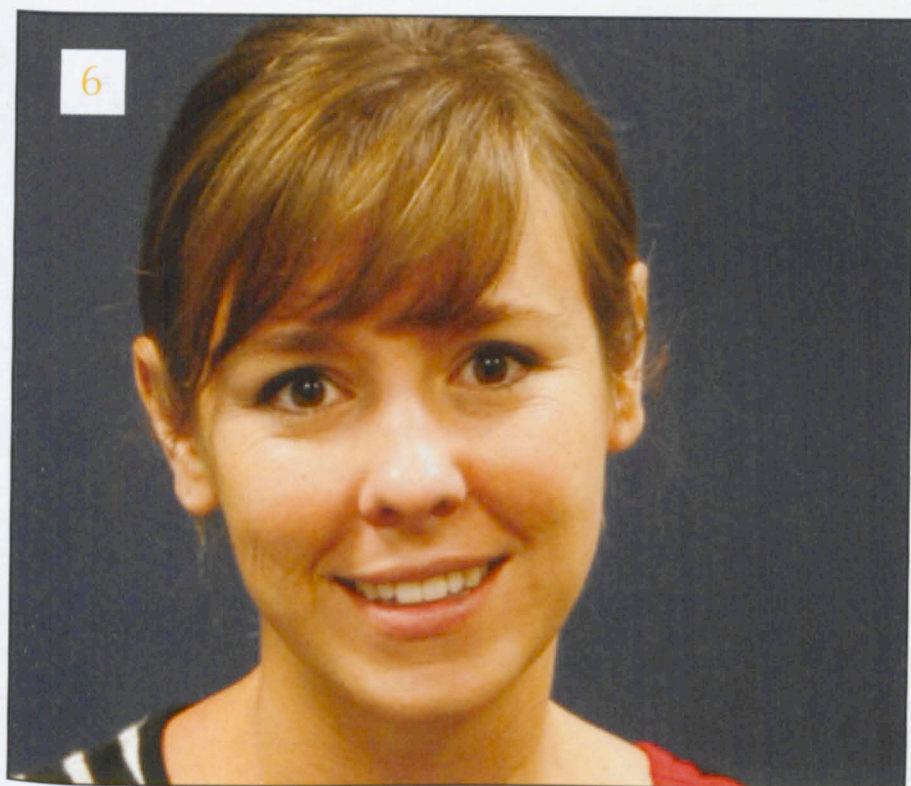
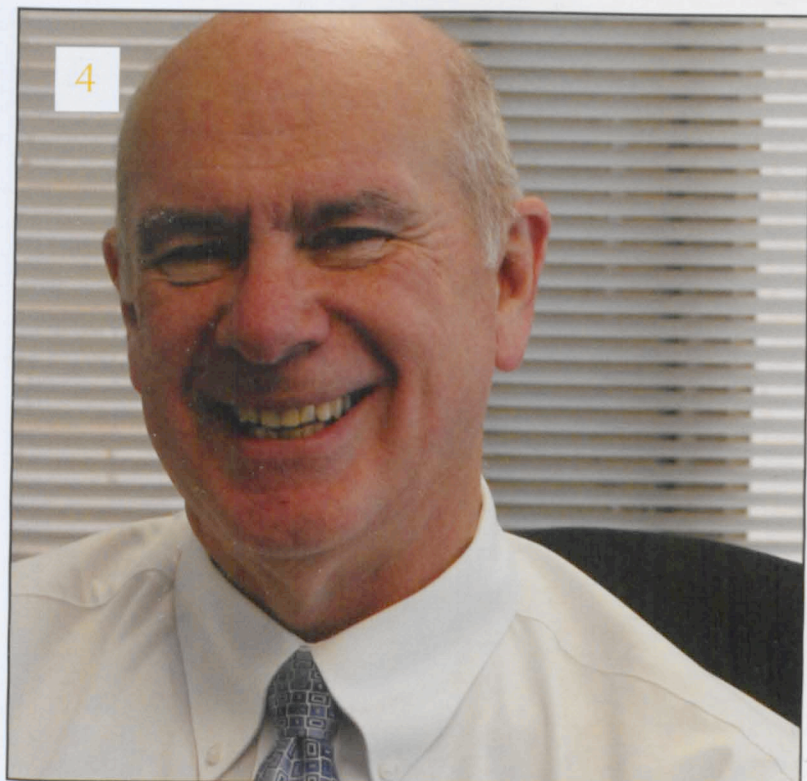


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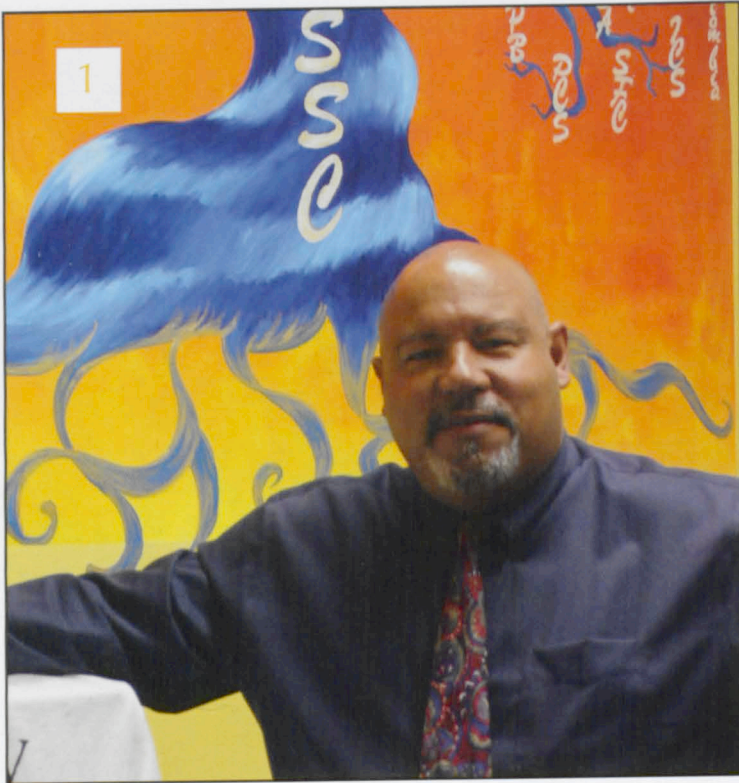
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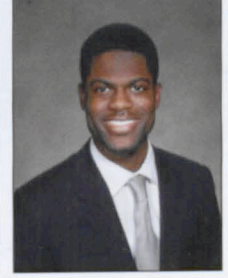
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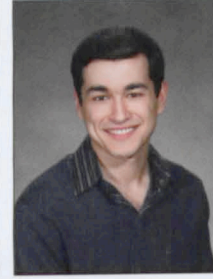
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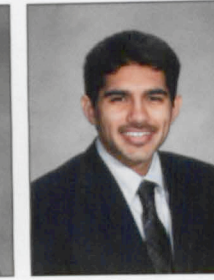
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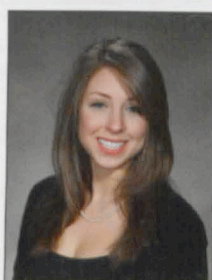
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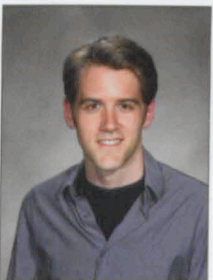
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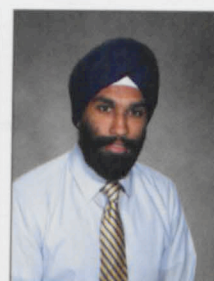
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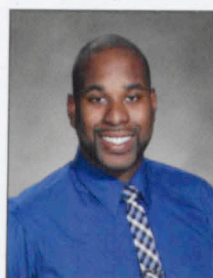
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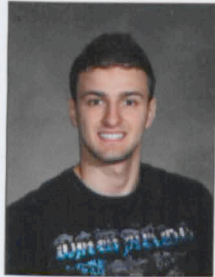
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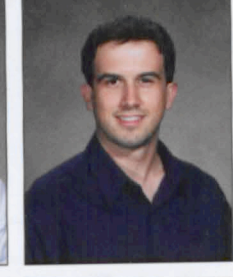
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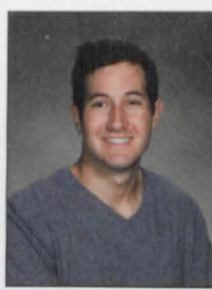
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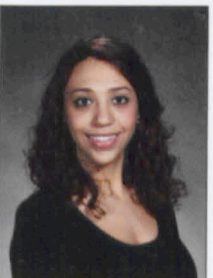
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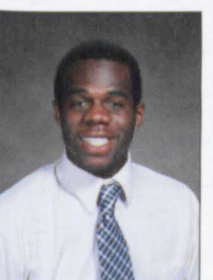
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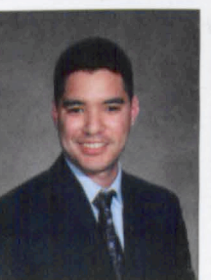
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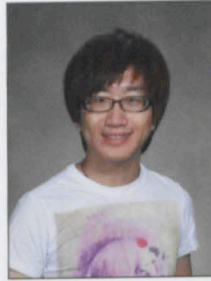


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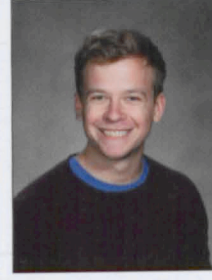


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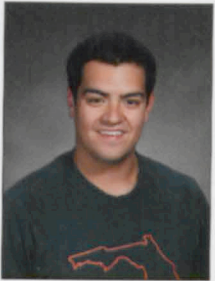
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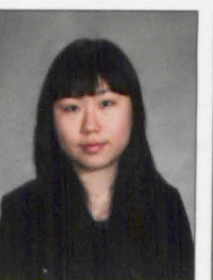
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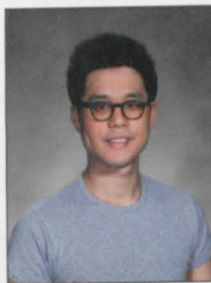


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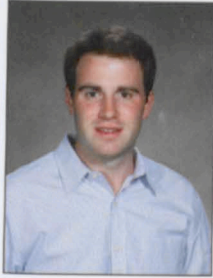


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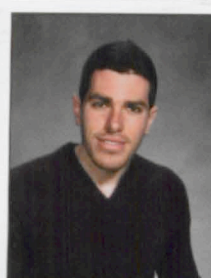
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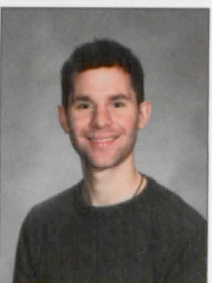
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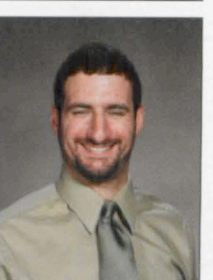
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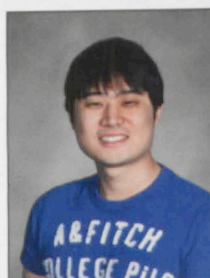


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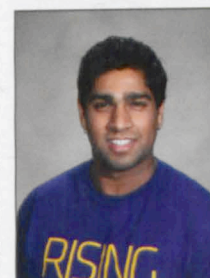
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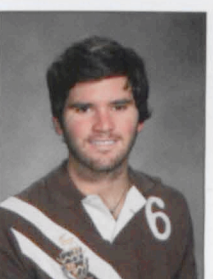
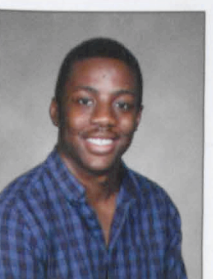
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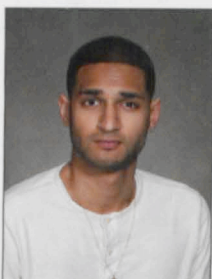




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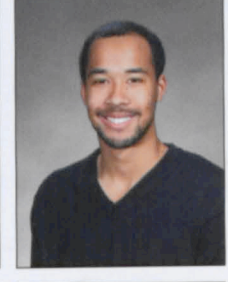
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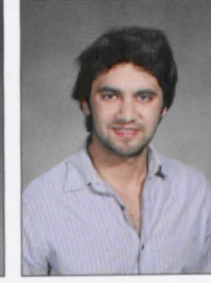
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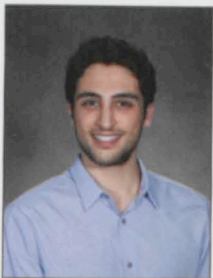
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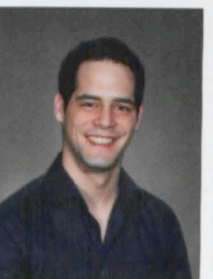
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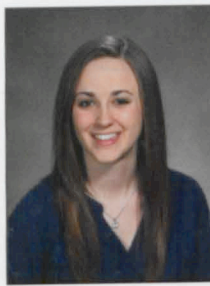
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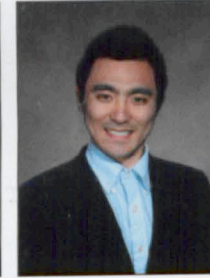
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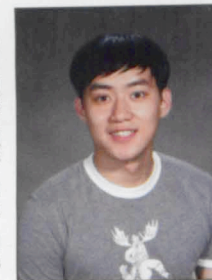
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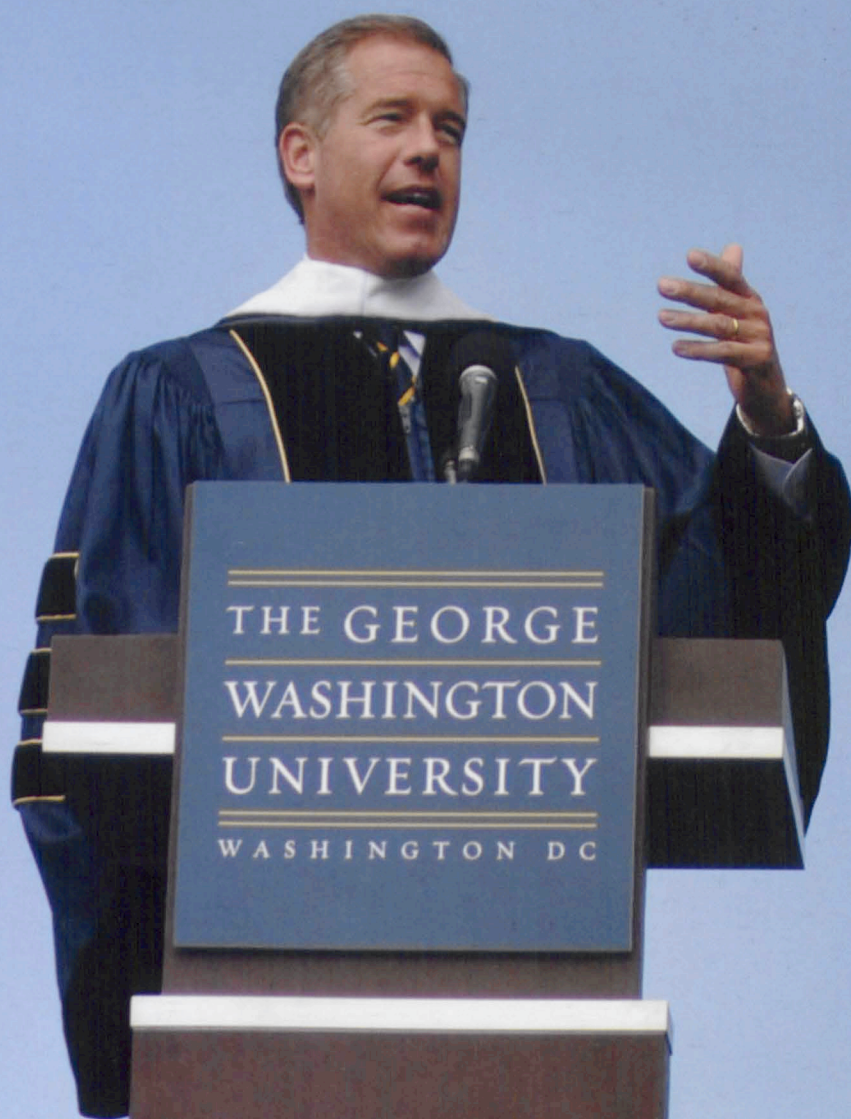


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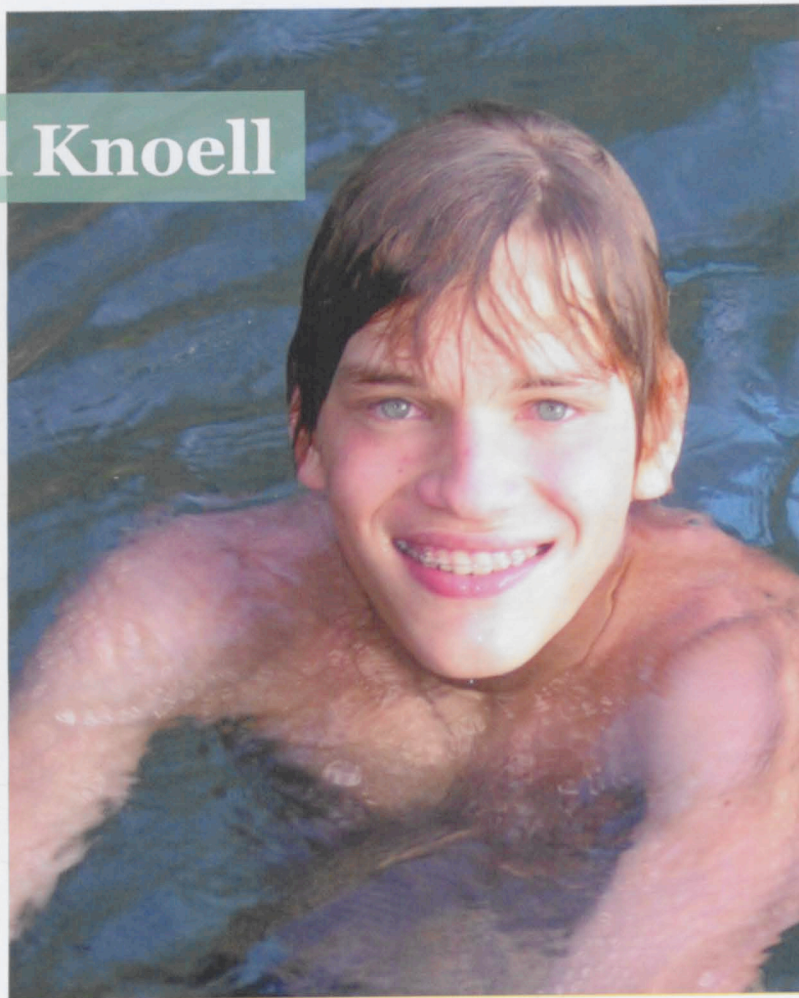


Christopher Edward Knoell



Dear Chris,
Congratulations on a job very well done at GWU. I could not be more proud of all your accomplishments to date. As you go forward with your life, you will always have my love, support, and faith in you. I am your "port in any storm," but know that all the answers to having a joyful life are already within you. Always trust your intuition.

I love you Buddy,
Mom



Louis Diller



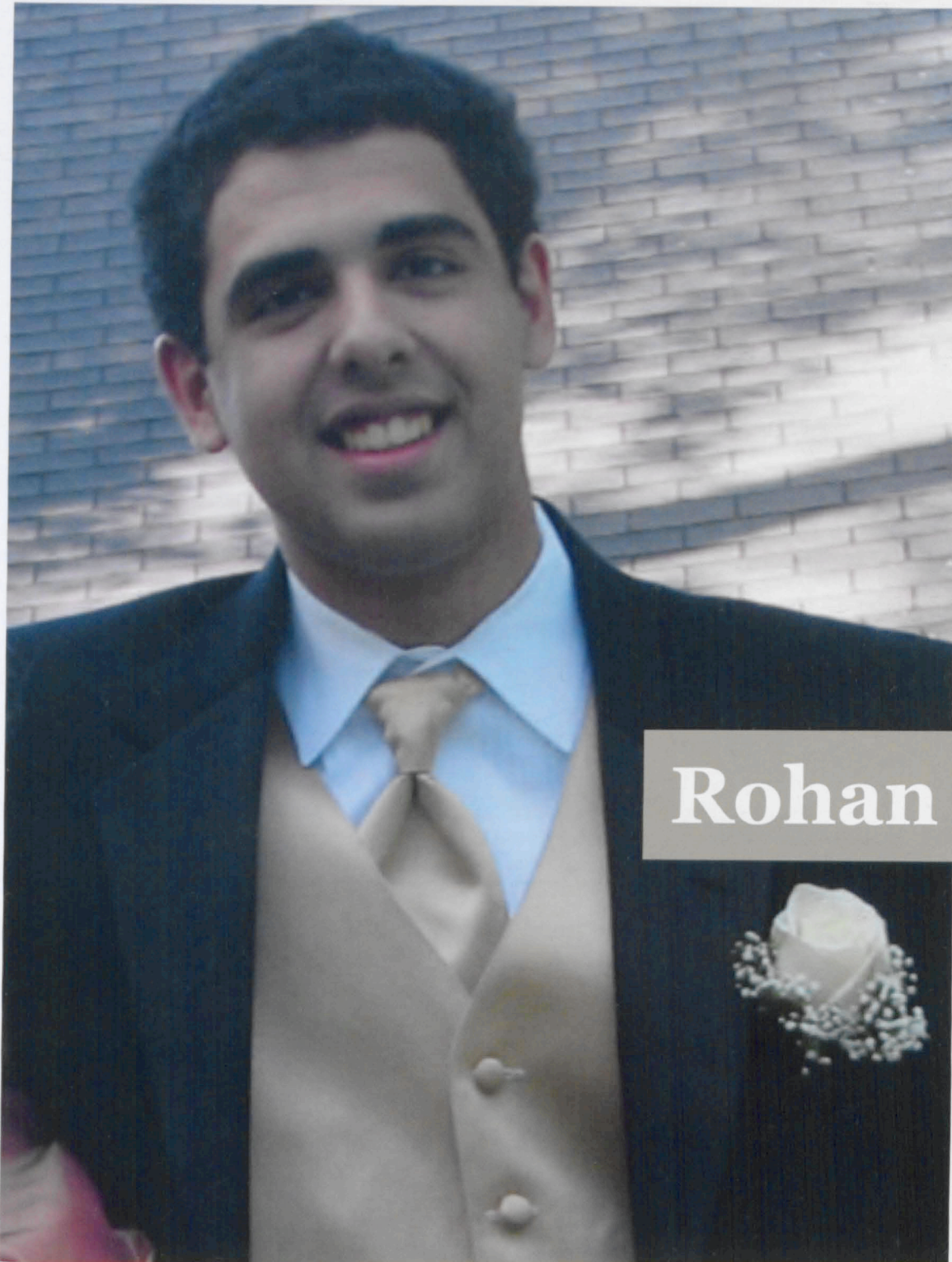
Travel with Belief and the Beat

London Venturelli



London,
From the inauguration to the March For Gay Rights next to Lady Gaga, you have made us proud of you and your efforts to make this world a better place while studying at GW and around the world on SAS. Your Kappa sisters and GW Radio will miss your songs and your voice. As Hunter says, "Go Big or Go Home." You have gone big, and now it is time to go home and continue on your journey.
Mom & Dad





Rohan Sunder

We are so proud of your many accomplishments at GW. You have shown an amazing resilience and maturity beyond your years. We know that you will go on to do greater things in the years to come. Go get 'em kiddo and don't look back. Congratulations on this day. We couldn't be happier.

Love,
Mom and Dad



Eleanor Shingleton

Eleanor,
You can do anything
you put your mind
to. Always think big,
go for your dreams
and make great things
happen. Your strong
mind, perseverance,
poise and humor will
take you far. We are all
so very proud of
you, Ellie.

With continuing Love,
Your Entire Family



Victoria Suros



Dear Victoria,
Congratulations!

You've worked so hard these last four years and here you are - a GW Graduate. We know you will be successful in whatever you do. We are so proud of you. Follow your dreams. We love you.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Amanda Efthimiou



Dear Amanda,
Congratulations on your many
accomplishments at GW. Although
you've graduated, your education
is not over. Never stop educating
yourself in all aspects of your life. We
know that you can do whatever you
set out to do in the future.

We are so proud of you,
Love Mom and Dad





Joseph Mazzariello

Congratulations Joe,

We continue to be proud of all you do and accomplish. We hope your four years at GWU have been fruitful and have made you happy. And remember to keep reaching for the stars... or digging below!

Love,
Mom and Dad

Alanna Murphy



Alanna,
Across the country, across the world you always make it work. You can do anything you put your mind to Alanna! Forever driven, relentless and you are living your dreams. Congratulations on your total giving of yourself in all that you do! May love, adventure, health and success be yours always. You did it, you're the Bunana King! It's off to new adventures, but don't forget the fairies.

Love,
Your Family



Karla,

We are very proud of you not only because of your academic success, but also because of the excellent person that you are. We hope all your dreams come true.

Love You,
Mom & Dad

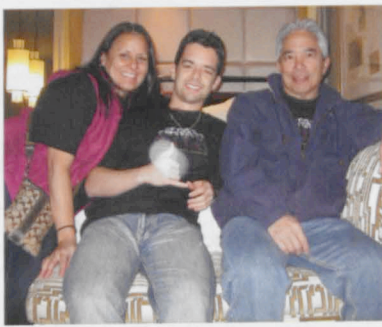
Karla Rivera-Torres



"Congratulations! We are so proud of all you have accomplished at GW!"

Love,
Mom, Dad, Brittany-Lee and
Grandma Doris

Ashley-Lynn Goldstein



Congratulations Triton!
We are all so proud
of you!

Love your ohana,
Peltier's, Inaura's,
Takahashi's and Santos'

Triton Peltier

Congratulations Alex!

Love,
Mom and Dad



Alex Magnano

Ruben Felipe Dasilva



Dear Ruben,
Congratulations!
All of your hard work
has finally paid off!
We are so very proud
of you for all the
accomplishments at
GW. We are confident
that you will go on
and do great things
in the years to come.
Thank you for being a wonderful person. Son, you make us so
very proud and very happy. Keep up the good work!

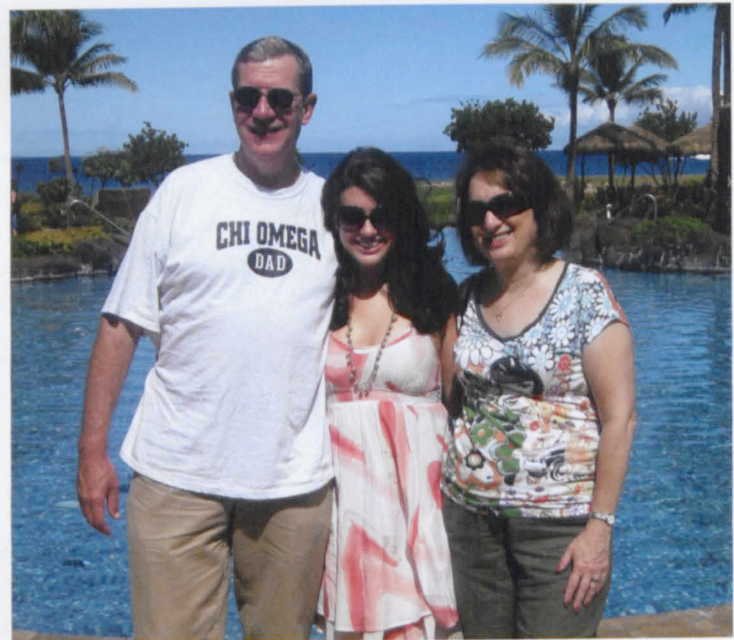
Love always,
Mom & Dad

Jeannette Oliva-Perez



Congratulations Jeannette!
You have made us so very proud. We wish you continued
success and happiness as you begin your next "chapter."
Today, GW, tomorrow... THE WORLD!

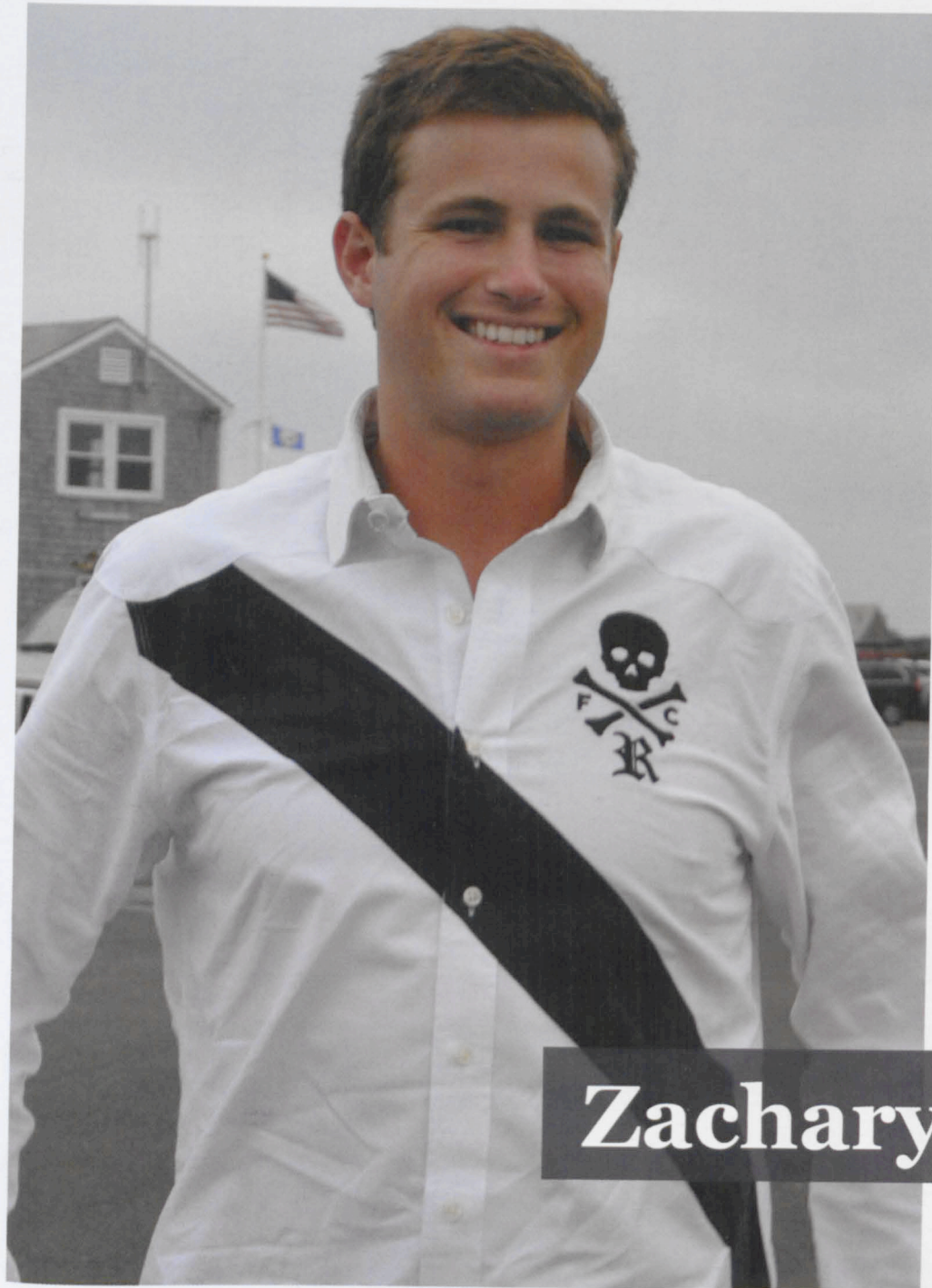
WE LOVE YOU!!!
Mom, Dad, Jessica and Carlos



Stephanie Benedict

Dear Stephanie,
A very special congratulations to our very special daughter.
Wishing you much success in everything you do.

Love Mom and Dad

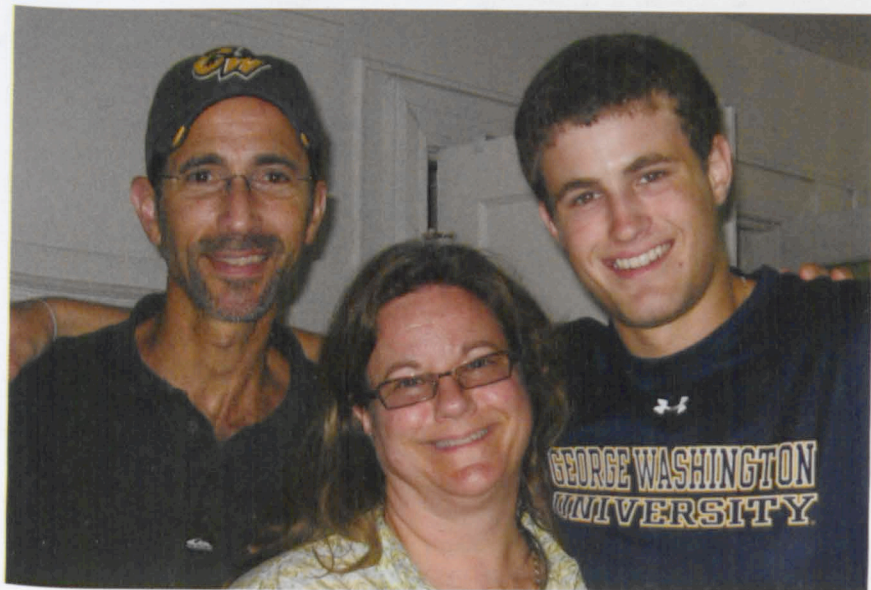


Zachary Daniel Levine,

Words cannot express how proud we are of you and how much we love you! You are an accomplished, confident, handsome young man whose natural intelligence, charm and good will bring joy to all who know you. Your future is yours to shape and we know that you will make the most of it! Congratulations on your graduation!

We Love You!
Mommy, Daddy, Rachel & Sarah

Zachary Levine



Hellen Dawit

Congratulations on a job well done!
We are so proud to celebrate this milestone with you. With your determination, your energy, your enthusiasm and your love of life, you have the potential to live your dreams and achieve the goals that you continue to set for yourself. You will always be the light of our lives and a blessing to all who come to know you.

With love and admiration,
Mom and Grandma



Danielle Barsky

Danielle,

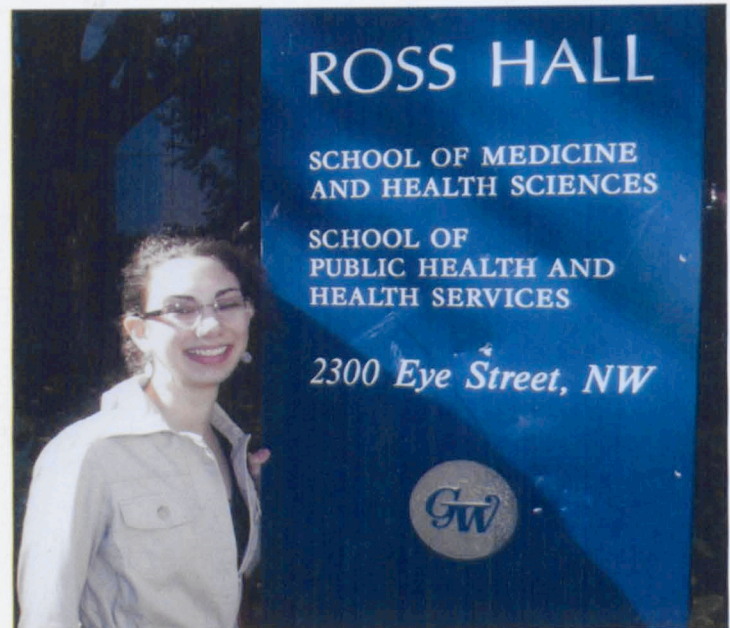
We're so proud of all your accomplishments these past four years at GW. You've worked so hard and it has truly paid off with a Mechanical Engineering degree. You've grown so much not only academically, but also through your music, fraternity, and study-abroad activities. We always love you and support you every step of the way as you pursue your goals and dreams.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Sara

Jared Stokes

Dear Jared,
Your sister Taylor and I are very proud of your many accomplishments at GW. We know that you will go on and do great things in the years to come. We just want you to know that we are very PROUD of you. May God Bless You and Congratulations on this very Special Day!!
Mom and Sister

Victoria A. Costa



Dear Victoria,
Congratulations on all that you have accomplished at GW. You truly are a blessing in our lives and you always make us proud. We wish you the very best as you continue on your path. Good luck in Medical School.
Love, Mom, Dad & Frank, Jr.

Kareem,

Congratulations to you. We are all very proud of you and know you will go far in life. Remember to be true to yourself and to always challenge yourself to be the best version of yourself.

Love from all of us,
Mom, Daniah and Kamleh

Kareem Shaban



Dear Alex,
Congratulations on your accomplishments at GW! Through the years I have always

admired your determination and always thought you had great potential. To a job well done and to a bright future full of exciting opportunities. We are all so very proud of you. We love you.

Mom, Luigi, Mia, Mike and all of the Family

Alex Fitzsimmons



Emily Davis

"You're off to Great Places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So... get on your way!"

-Dr. Seuss, *Oh, The Places You'll Go!*

Congratulations!
Love, Mom, Dad & Sarah



Jessica Santemma

Dear Jess,

We are so proud of you and so happy that you have accomplished yet another personal goal in graduating from your college of choice, GW. We love you and wish you happiness and joy as you continue to follow your dreams and make the world a better place.

Love, Mom and Dad



If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you...
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too...

If you can dream---and not make dreams your
master...

If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same...

If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"

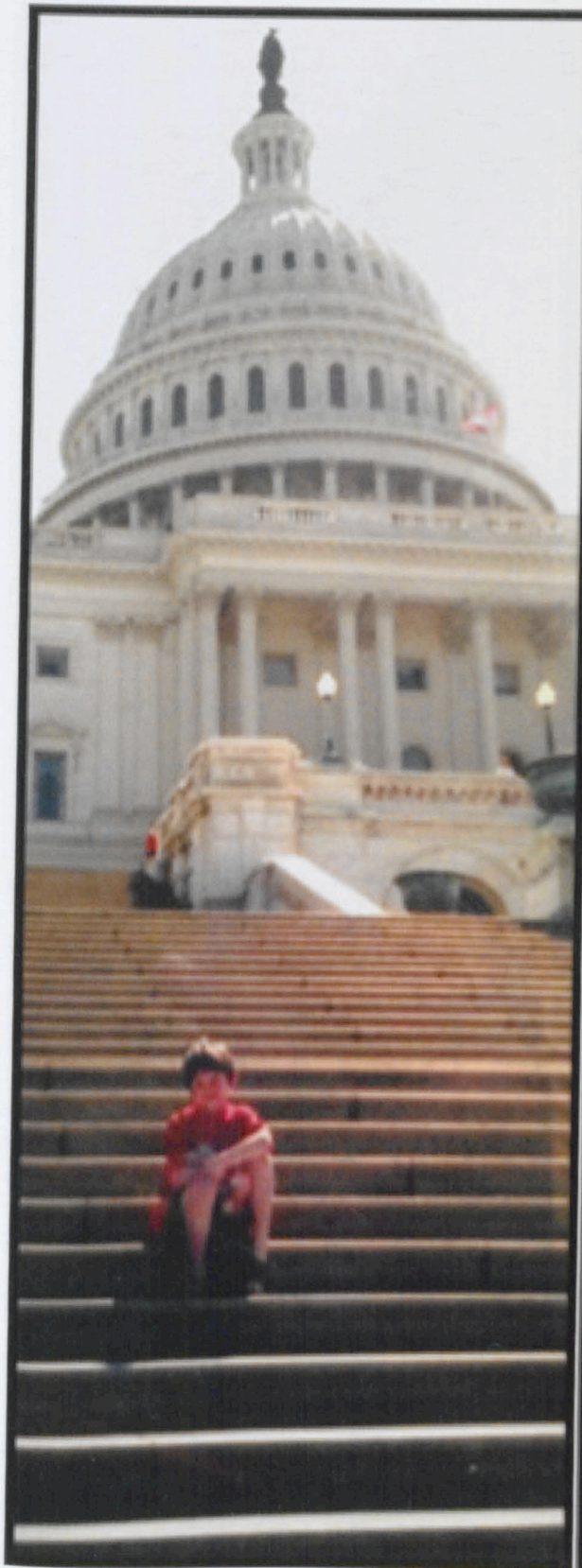
If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings---nor lose the common touch...
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And---which is more---you'll be a Man, my son!

Excerpts from *If* by Rudyard Kipling

**Congratulations on finding your passion...
And never giving up on pursuing your dreams!**

**All our love to you Clara...
Mom & Dad**

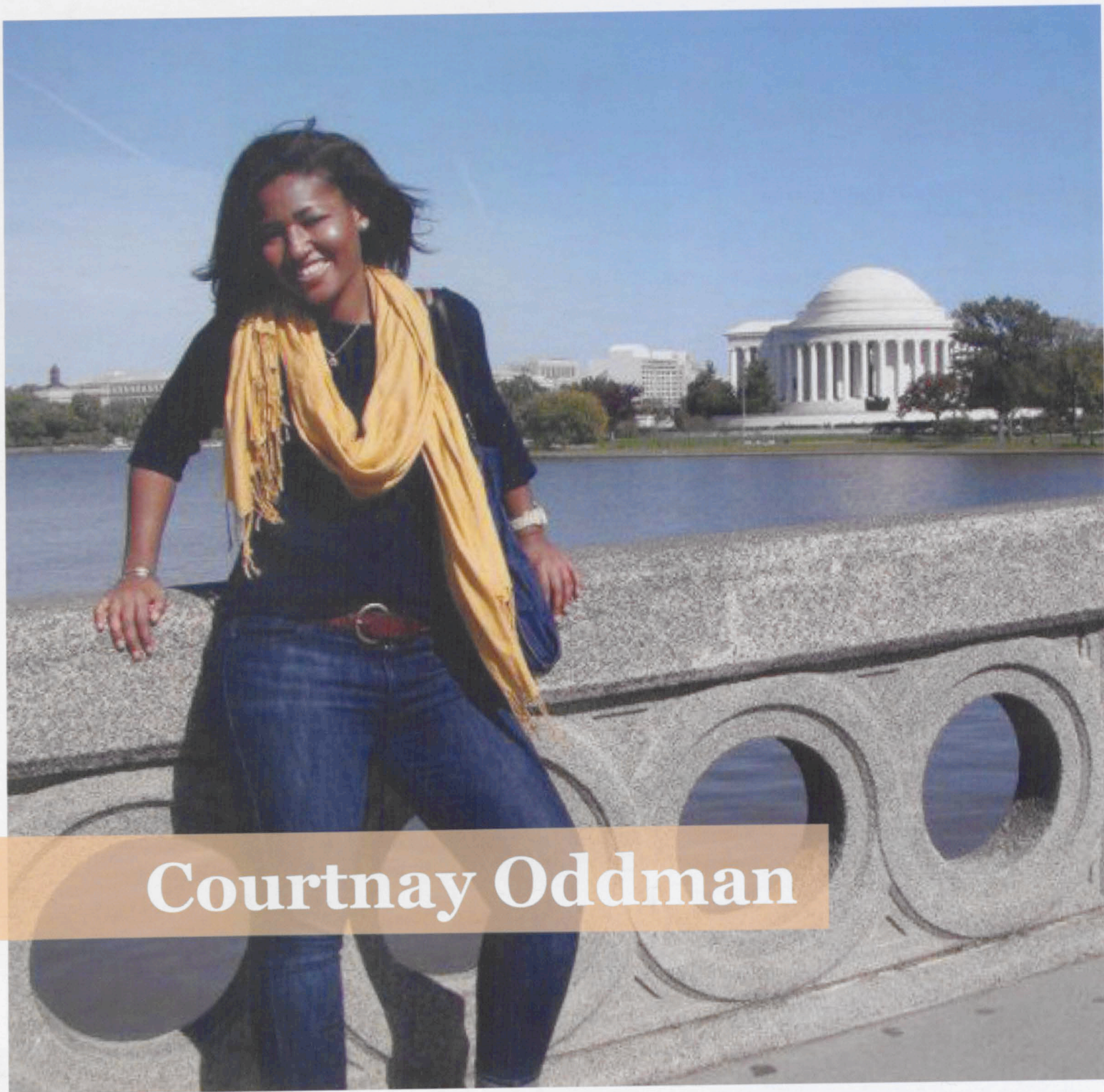
Clara Merchant



Corey Lewin

We are so proud of you and so grateful for who you are. Work hard, aim high, and go forth to a life filled with happiness and joy, good health, good friends, humor, success, and accomplishment.

We love you,
Mom and Dad



Courtnay Oddman

Dear Courtnay,

Congratulations on living your dream and seeing it come true. As you continue to pursue your dreams do so with the passion and commitment you have shown at GW. We are grateful to all who helped to guide and mentor you along the way. We believe in you and are so very proud of you.

Love Always,
Mom, Dad and Ryun



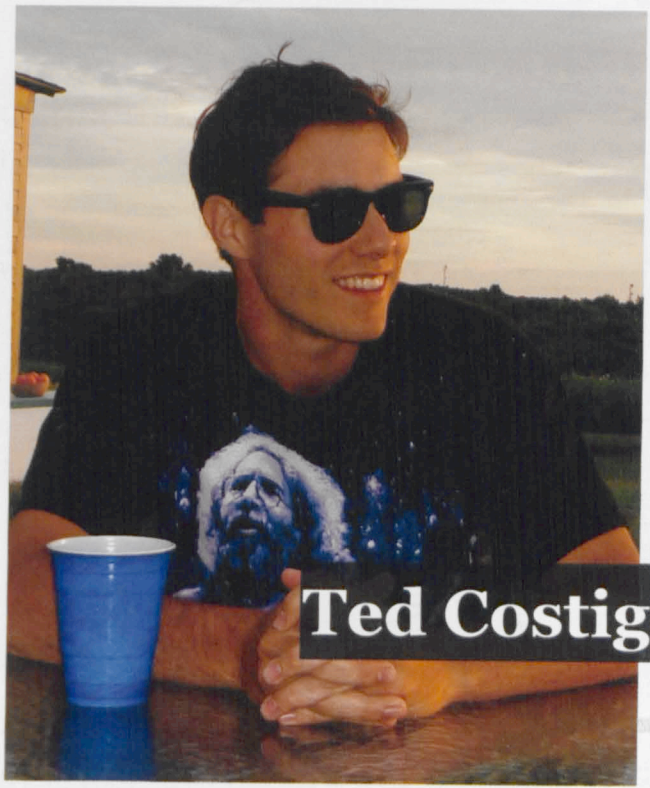
Shravalya Tirumala



Dear Shravy,

We are so proud of everything you've accomplished during your time at GW. Cherish the experiences made during these past four years. Your journey towards adulthood has culminated with your transformation into the beautiful, strong, kind person you are today. We hope to see you strive to accomplish every endeavor you face in the future. We are so proud of you!

With Love,
Your Family



Ted Costigan

It takes a family and village to create such beauty. Papa, Gram, GinGin, Bob, Elisabeth, Maria, Kayla, Jay, Eddie, Shannon, Carly, Perrys, Butters, Rita, Roland, Donna, Fran, John, Lydia, Beth, Ted, The Mogs, Claire, Bob B, Yousri, Ann, Lisa, Stones, Rusinaks, Hughes, Edsons, Cam, Winnie, Ryan, Eric, Dana.

Much Love Always, Mom, Dad and Rory



Alexa Jane Lee

Congratulations!!!

Love, Mom, Dad, Susannah and William

JJ,

As you are about to embark on the next exciting chapter of your wonderful life, please recognize that you are a natural born leader and people will follow you always. So do great things with that power - lead smart, lead for good, do good. It has been my gift to have you local for four years so I am sad to see you go, but I look forward to marveling at your future accomplishments that I know will be many.

With love,

Auntie Joy

Dearest Jahan,

Like all the stars you revere on the soccer field, your prowess comes from focus, discipline and a great love of the game. Since you've always had this natural inquisitiveness and flair, go your own distance and push your boundaries to be the best you can be. But always remember to stay happy! That is the most important always. We are very proud of you and you bring great joy to all our lives.

Love always,

Mom, Dad and Anand

Dearest Jahan,

Your name describes your destiny - the world (jahan) is your playground, easel, office, or whatever you want it to be.

GW has been a great nursery to refine your intellect, develop your ability to get along with everybody, nurture your spirit of adventure, and add further flourish to your vitality and gregariousness.

I am so proud of your many accomplishments and so excited about the richness of the journey ahead of you.

Congratulations and all my love,

Sunny (godfather)

Jahan Tahiliani

Joseph DiVirgilio



Dear Joe,

We are so proud of all that you have accomplished during your years at GW. You've had some wonderful experiences and made many lifelong friends. Continue to strive for the best life has to offer, stay true to yourself, and always have the courage to follow your dreams. Congratulations on this exciting day! We love you very much!

Love always,
Mom, Dad, and Taylor

Kaveh Moeinzadeh



Dear Kaveh,

We are so proud of you and Kamyar's great accomplishments at GW. We feel blessed seeing you both graduate together at different levels. We are so happy and know that you both will soar to new heights and do great things in the years to come. Congratulations and best wishes for your continued success.

Love always,
Mom & Dad

Courtney Pendray



Courtney,

You have truly made the most of your college experience, and we are so incredibly proud of you! You embraced all that George Washington University has to offer from rowing on the crew team, to being an academic scholar, to studying abroad in Madrid, internships, Greek life, and making awesome lifelong friendships!

You will cherish your college years for the rest of your life, and you will be able to celebrate those memories with a great sense of pride and satisfaction at the wonderful woman you have become... kind... caring... intelligent... someone with a sense of purpose for the greater good.

May you find a place of happiness and satisfaction in the world and may you continue to strive to always learn something new.

Go out into the world and show them what you're made of! God Bless.

We love you to pieces,
Mommy, Dad and Connor
xoxoxo



Dear Josh,
Congratulations on your graduation from GW.
We are so very proud of you on this day, as we
are every day. You made the most of your GW
experience and have left behind an important
legacy of accomplishment, especially with the
GW Model UN Team. Your future is bright as you
leave GW - make no small plans!

With love,
Your entire Brown, Muchin, Stern, Kamp and
Stone Family



Joshua C. Brown



Dear Moses,
We are proud of your character and
achievements. You are disquisitive,
versatile, determined and loyal.
Enjoy your journey!

Love,
Mama and Papa

Leo Moses Weisberg





Raymond F. Ashton III

"Each generation goes further than the generation preceding it because it stands on the shoulders of that generation. You will have opportunities beyond anything we've ever known." -Ronald Reagan

Dear Ray,
Congratulations on your graduation and commissioning, we are so proud and happy for you! Wishing you continued success and happiness.

Love, Always and Forever,
Mom, Dad, Nick, Granma, Granpa & Baba





Lindsay Bloom

CONGRATULATIONS LINDSAY!

YOU'VE MADE US PROUD PARENTS FOR 21
YEARS! WE LOVE YOU SEVEN AND MORE!

L, M and D



Dagny Adjoa Asase, Class of 2012

Dearest Dagny:

Congratulations on your achievements at GW. You have survived the ultimate college experience. It is never the environment that matters but what you bring to it. We always knew that you were special. We are very proud of you. We wish you and the Class of 2012 limitless skies and a purposeful life that impacts the world for good. Love always:

Mama, Daddy, Damali, Courteney and Dantes

Dagny Adjoa Asase



Congratulations, Christina!

We are so proud of you and how you've embraced your time in D.C. -- Capitol Hill, Freemasons, British Embassy -- and, of course, the great education you've received at GW! Now... on to Paris!

All our love,
Dad, Mom, Julia, Dave, John, Melissa,
Steve and Kacey

Christina Wald

"Eventually all things yield before a man's best."
-The Autobiography of Henry VIII
by Margaret George

Dear Christine,
From Thurston to South Hall, it's been a long journey
through college, and yet, your life's journey has only
just begun. I'm proud of how hard you've worked
and the decisions you've made.
As you begin this new phase in your life, continue to
remain true to who you are as you find your place in
the world. Congratulations!

Love Mom



Christine Sisto



Tamara Hon



Dearest Tamara,

Every day is the best day with you - I'd like to know how it gets better than this! These walls that were put up to hold you back are falling - Long live the walls you crashed through... Long live all the mountains you move... Long live all the magic you do... Long live and prosper! Stay fearless. And light the fire within!

We love you forever and always,
Your Man, Tat, & Kit



Daniel Chayes

Dear Daniel,

We've always been proud of you, but never more so than right now, seeing the kind of adult you've become over the last four years. You've taken charge of your life with independence, personal determination, and passion, and made it one of great academic accomplishment, creativity, and an enthusiasm for stretching yourself to ever new frontiers.

We love you.

Mom, Dad, and Jess



Alex Conlan

Congratulations Alex!

Although you have repeatedly proven that you can successfully compete on each higher level of competition, your best accomplishments are yet to be realized. We wish you the best of health and happiness as you move on to the next chapter of your life's journey.

Love, Mom, Dad, and Amy

Congratulations Ari!

You really have come a long way in four short years. You should be very proud of yourself, as we are of you. You took full advantage of being at GW, which is what we had hoped for. You are well on your way to an exciting, rewarding and productive life! We love you!

Mommy & Daddy

Arielle Heffez

Dear Anusia,

We are so proud of your accomplishments at GW. May success always come your way in life, and future challenges and obstacles in life tackle out for your glory with the same zeal and vigor. Congratulations on this day.

Sciskamy i calujemy,
Mama i Tato

Anna Sarnek

Shamaya M. Fenwick-Chisholm



To Our Absolutely Phenomenal, Awesome, Amazing, & Charismatic GW Graduate... Continue to embrace and overcome life's challenges with your winning spirit... Continue to rise, soar and inspire within your greatness... Continue to shine like the beautiful star you are... We are so very Blessed and Proud of your Magnificence for this Distinguished Honor. Congratulations!!! We Love and Adore you.
Lots of Love from
Mommie, Granny B.
Chisholm & Family



Thomas F. Cunningham IV

Tom, Congratulations!

Your family and especially Mom & Dad are very proud of what you have accomplished in your life and educational career. We know you will have success in your future - follow your heart! Also know that your family will always love you and hope the best for you.



Kristine Anne Cruz

Dear Tin-Tin,

At each and every step in your life, you have amazed us with your accomplishments. You have brought us joy and have made us so very proud. You have the spirit and pizzazz like no one else has. We admire your leadership, hard work, perseverance and passion. Congratulations on your graduation! We know that your next endeavor will be another success -- just don't forget to call home!

With love and pride,
Mom & Dad



Hey! Hey! Hey you!
You graduated! Sis, I am so proud of you and all you have accomplished. You're awesome and I love you.

Love,
Ivan

Carl Sceusa

Dear Carl,

Congratulations on earning your undergraduate degree at GWU! We are proud of all you have accomplished in just four years and are confident that your future is limitless! Your love, dedication, high ethics and loyalty to your family, Phi Psi, work and friends make you unique! We are so proud of you and appreciate all that is important to you! We love you- Always stay true to yourself!

Love,
Mom, Dad & Elaina

Blake Eisenberg

- B- Brings joy and happiness to me each day
- L- Lives life in a manner that makes me proud he is my son
- A- Acts, sings and dances with such talent and passion
- K- Kindness and compassion are two of his many wonderful traits
- E- Enjoy and treasure each day of your life

I am so proud of you and wish you a happy and fulfilled future.

Love You!
Mom



Christian Frazer Roberts

Christian,

We have really enjoyed your time at GWU – from the Presidential Inauguration to July 2011 when our entire family found a reason to be in D.C. with you. It has been amazing to witness you grow into an adult who is responsible, resourceful and self-reliant. You will always be one of the three greatest joys in our life. Know that we love you and will always be here for you,
Mom & Dad

Another chapter in your life closes marking the conclusion of your undergraduate studies. I have seen you mature over the years, developing into a considerate and honest person. I am honored to have you as my brother. Although I am 21 months your senior, I learn a great deal about myself through you. I am confident that you will be successful with whatever you try and do next.

Love,
Steven



I hope you enjoyed your years in college. I can't believe how fast time has gone its crazy! You have a bright future ahead make sure to enjoy it. I love you soooo much and I am always here if you ever need anything.

Love you sister,
Darci



Sarah,
We'll never forget
the sight of you
running down the
beach toward us (at
full speed) during our
Spring Break 2008
family vacation. We
worried something
was terribly wrong but
you were racing to
tell us the great news
– you found out you
had been accepted
to GW, your dream
school! How proud

we were and how proud we are! What a great example to
your younger brothers! You've continued our family's proud
Colonial tradition... go forth and do great things! We are so
very proud of you! Love you so very much!

Sarah Citrenbaum



Clare Kelly

Dear Clare,

Four years have quickly passed since that day when we left
you in D.C. not knowing a single person. We are so proud of
how successful you have been at GW and how exciting the
future will be for you. As usual, thanks for the memories.

Love,
Dad, Mom, and Christian



Congratulations Kelsey!

We are so proud of you! You have made the most of your
time at GW and have developed wonderful gifts that
will take you far in life. As Pablo Neruda has written,
"Everything you do is full of flowers, rich with the earth."

We love you so very much,
Mom, Dad, Kris, Bentley and all your family

Kelsey Chatlosh



Nicole Marie Geotes

EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY.
YOU'RE GRADUATING!

Dear Nicole,
We wish you much success and happiness as you follow your dreams! You have so much to look forward to and many more adventures ahead.
We are so proud of you!
Mom, Dad, Michael & Christopher

"It matters not what someone is born, but what they grow to be."
-JK Rowlings

Colleen Koenig



Thurston, JBKO, Strong, 25th St. OAI, Bozutto, the Avenue.
Melbourne.

XΩ, ΔΣΠ President... and so much more!



Dear Son,
Congratulations!
Live your life as
an inspiration
to younger
generations.
Love,
Mom

Aaron Lobato-Lewis

Dear Tony,

I am so proud of you! I know that you will go on to do extraordinary things in life, whatever it may be. Your perseverance, ambition and innovation are what makes you so special. Never forget that!

Love,
Ji-Hye



"I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known." -Unknown.

We are proud beyond belief and wish you the very best in all of your future endeavors.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Whitney & Roly

Michael G. Pierce

Rebecca Naeder



Dear Rebecca,
The George Washington University phase of your life is now complete. The next phase is about to begin. May all your journeys lead you to all the happiness in the world. We are so very proud of all your accomplishments and know that you will continue to do great things.

Congratulations, we love you so very much.
Mom, Dad and Robert

Andrew,

I am so proud of your many accomplishments – your hard work, your perseverance. Most of all, I am proud that you are a mensch.

Love, Dad

Andrew Pauker

Dear Elyssa,

We are so proud of all your accomplishments at GW! We know you will be as successful in your future as you have been in the past. Congratulations on your graduation. We are all so very proud of you!

With much Love,
Mom, Dad, Dani and Sydney

Elyssa Nemetsky

Allison Grabell

Dear Allison,

Congratulations on this major milestone! We are incredibly proud of all of your accomplishments leading up to your graduation from GW. You are beautiful on the inside and out and we know your kindness, compassion, leadership skills and curiosity will carry you far in your future endeavors.

Lots of love and support,
Mom, Dad, Justin, Ben, Kirby and Drake



Aria Varasteh

Dear Aria,

We are so proud of you for accomplishing so much at GWU. We know that you will succeed in everything you set out to do. Congratulations on your graduation! We couldn't be happier.

Love you always,
Mom, Dad, Ava

Brett Pinto



Dear Brett,
We are so proud of you. We know you will do great things in the years to come and accomplish everything you strive for. Congratulations to you on this very special day.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Brandon and Brittany



Laura Lentin

Congratulations Laura!
We are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Alaina and Little Elfie



Caroline Cauley

To our wonderful Caroline,

How very happy and excited we are today! This time at GWU has passed so quickly, yet you have accomplished so much in four short years. We could not possibly be more proud of you! You knew the first time you visited that GWU was the place for you, and you were right. We are so happy for you, and so inspired by the hard work, determination and dedication you invested that has led to this wonderful day. Congratulations! We love you so much!

Mom, Dad, Sean and Ryan



Danielle Johnson

Congratulations, Danielle, on completing your amazing GWU journey. We are so proud of you, your academic achievements, employment success and, above all, extraordinary personal growth. Keep making the world laugh!

All our love,
Mom, Dad and Nate





Lily Colley

The most important things we can give our children
are roots and wings....

Lily, you make us so proud!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Kent and Christopher



Dear Lyndsey Marie,

We are so very proud of you and all you have accomplished in your years at GW, including all your hard work on the Hatchet. We were a little surprised that the girl from the suburbs chose a city school, but you knew better than us. You have learned so much, and have grown into a special young woman. We know your future is bright.

Congratulations.

We love you!

Lisa and Dad

Lyndsey Wajert



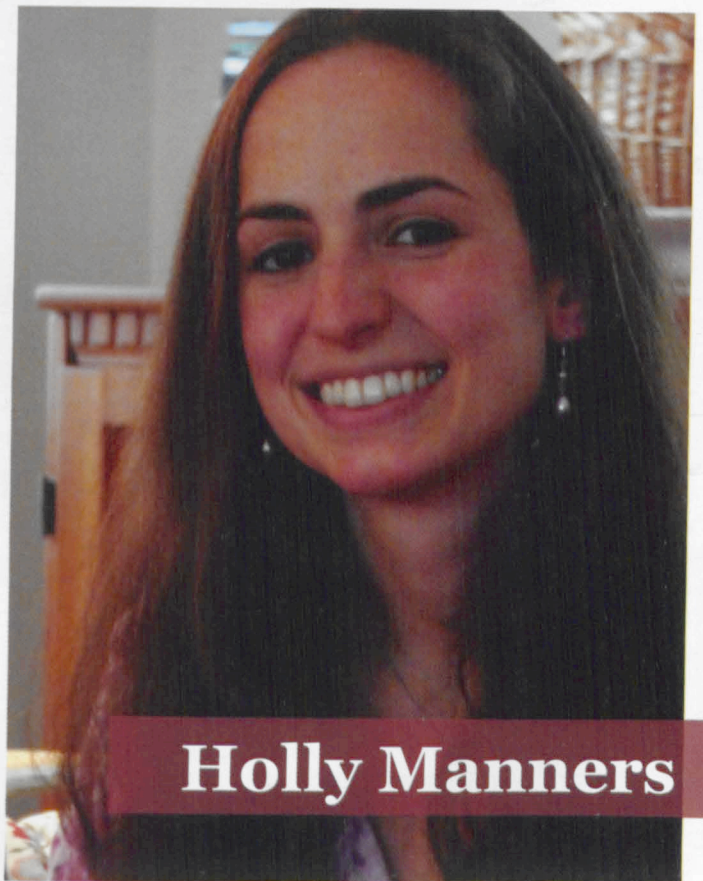
Dan,
 Congratulations on extraordinary GW
 achievements: academics, internships
 at Goldman Sachs, the White House
 and Senate, great fraternity brothers,
 Australia study abroad, and next a
 prominent real estate private equity
 firm. We are incredibly proud.
 Your future is limitless.

Dan Kessler

Jacob Butler



Dear Jacob,
 We are so pleased and proud with your many
 accomplishments at George Washington.
 You have become a strong and confident
 young man and we know success will surely
 come your way.
 We are very happy for you.
 Mom & Dad
 Aunt Carol, Uncle Paul & Dana



Holly Manners

Happy Graduation, Holly!

Love, Mom, Dad & Dobby



Our dearest Todd,
It is amazing how fast the time has gone by. You are a responsible, and truly uniquely gifted independent young man who has made us very proud in all that you do. Your experience at GW only enhanced the strong and intelligent character that developed as a child and adolescent. We congratulate you on all your achievements and know your future will be bright and beautiful. As you enter the next phase of your life, we wish you the best of everything, but most of all, we wish you love in all that you do and accomplish.

Love to you always, Mom and Dad

Todd Belok



Talin Baghdadlian

Dear Talin,
You've been a hard working girl since your childhood. We were sure your high academic efforts would lead you reaching your dreams. Sky is not the limit... Wishing you a continued success and congratulations for your extraordinary achievements.
Proud parents,
Hagop and Silva Baghdadlian



Dear Danielle,
 Congratulations!
 We are very proud of your significant achievement. You have spent the last four years on an exciting journey taking full advantage of the opportunity to expand your knowledge and leadership skills, cultivate lifetime friendships and have fun. For that we are thankful. Best wishes from your family as you transition to the next phase of your life.
 Love, Mom & Michael



Danielle T. Graddick

Charlotte Wygant



All your hard work has finally paid off! Now the future begins...

Love,
 Dad, Mum, & Stuart

Colleen,

We always knew you were going places. Congratulations on your graduation from GW. We are all very proud of you.



Much Love,
 Mom, Ellen, and Jane

Colleen Fitzsimmons

Dear Caitie,
 You have taken a path and left a trail.
 Carry on - - it's extraordinary!
 Congratulations on all your accomplishments.

Love always,
 Mom and Dad



Caitlin Daw

Patrick Lylo

As Albert Einstein said, "Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value."

You are certainly on your way! Dad and I are so proud of you and all you have accomplished at GW. We are confident you are ready to go out in the world and make it a better place.

With all our love,
Mom and Dad

Taylor Gould

Taylor,

We are so proud of who you are and want to say how much we love being part of your life. Graduating from GWU adds another remarkable accomplishment you've achieved through hard work and sacrifice while staying true to your beliefs.

Watching you grow and achieve so much has created countless wonderful memories. They are all saved in a special place in our hearts. As you begin your next journey we wish you all the happiness life can offer and look forward to sharing all of its ups and downs. For it truly is a special honor to be your parents.

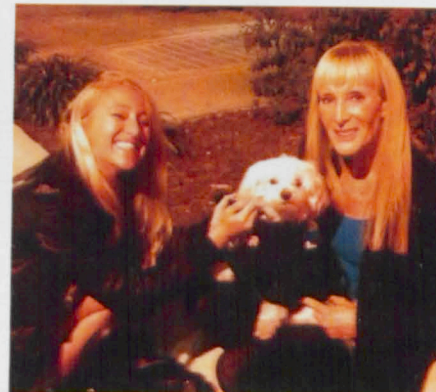
Love,
Mom and Dad



Maryann and Estee,
Congratulations on
successfully navigating
The George Washington
University and the Potomac
River for the last four years.
We love you!
The Tigwell/Grunseth
and Gabel families



Maryann Grunseth & Estee Gabel



Paige Sable Auerbach

My Dearest Paige Baby, My Angel...

It is yet evening of another Day. I stare at blank paper and wonder what I can say that would be commiserate with this occasion. Once again, an EVENT has happened. Your graduation from COLLEGE...upon which it is difficult to speak, but IMPOSSIBLE to be Silent.

We can talk about these years and all that has happened. How a call from you in Rome in my morning led to "Skype in Your Night" and just as when you were small, you would not settle down until we had said our say Again and Again of, "I LOVVVEE...!!!" and "I LOOVVE YOU MORE!!!" The good of us only gets better! We are the wine that gets More Ripe over Time!

I'm thinking back. I'm Thinking WAY Back. Once again you have Found YEARS to Cherish. Hold every Good MOMENT Precious. You will be Thinking of these Days the Rest of your LIFE, and Smiling at That. It is the LAST of A LOT, but it is The BEGINNING of Much More. And on and on we move. And really, How good it is to LIVE LIFE! Adore all the Stages. There are SO MANY Fine Times.

May you FIND INSPIRATION in the BIG Picture, But may you Find LOVE in the Details!

TOMORROW? You will live By the STANDARDS You Set TODAY! And, as always YOU are doing the TOMORROWS with BEAUTY!

I am only ONE who ADORES you. The SMILE of YOU! Your UNDENIABLE PASSION! You are a Classic Beauty. A type of BREATHLESS APPEAL whose inner Radiance, Charm, Looks, BRAINS and Warmth of Personality Propels you forward to special circumstances and places... It's your world, your Saga, your production and Your DANCE!! You've got it ALL! Make it as cushy, nutty, kindly, delicate, glorious, courageous and happy as you can. "If not NOW, When?"

You are ALWAYS in my being. I take Tremendous pride in all of your FEATS. Talk about my Paige Baby and I wear it like a Badge around my HEART. Touch your Heart and KNOW that my APPROVAL and DELIGHT are always there to carry along with You all of your LIFE. FEEL my Arms around you All of The Time. My Thoughts are ALWAYS THINKING, "I Love HER." You captured me Right AWAY, in the Beginning. And forever, I ADORE.

You, YOU, I LOVE YOU MORE,
Mommy

Dear Justin,

We are very proud of what you have accomplished at GW. We are happy that you have enjoyed your college life and have made many good friends there. We wish you every success in whatever you do in the future. You can do anything that you put your mind to. Always be positive and confident, follow your dreams and make great things happen! Congratulations on your graduation!

Love you always,
Mom and Dad



Justin Cheng

Josh,

We are so incredibly proud of all you have accomplished, and of the terrific man you have become. You are a superstar in every possible way. We congratulate you on your graduation from GW, and look forward to a marvelous future! We love you so, today and every day.

Love, Mom, Dad, Becky, Ben
and your grandparents

Josh Goldstein



Wonderful Daughter: FLASH – you’ve lived, studied and traveled to more than 15 countries already in your young life and found a wonderful student home at GWU these past four years. We are so proud of all your accomplishments at GWU in your academic, work/internships and social/sports commitments. Your independent spirit, confidence and discerning personality have brought you many academic rewards as well as lifelong friendships and the strength of character to achieve in all your future endeavors. We admire the strong, accomplished, loving and caring young woman you are.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Ashley, I am so proud of you - not only for reaching this point in life, but for all that you have done up to now. From England, to Singapore, to Africa, to Switzerland, to Washington, D.C., to navigating China during your GWU study abroad, I have watched you grow into a wonderful and confident young woman. You have worked incredibly hard these last four years and now it is time to take what you have learned not only in school, but in life and apply them to the next step of the journey. We love you and are so happy for you and all that you have accomplished, and look forward to the great things that are just beginning for you. Congratulations my Sister!

Love,
Christopher

Ashley Lowes



Flash! You made it to the big wide world- congratulations. And you did it in true Ashley style too- with lots of fun AND lots of hard work, too, along the way. I have no doubt that your future is bright and that you will enter the next phase of your life with enthusiasm, determination and positivity.

We are all so proud of you and maybe one day you will be as great as me! Go get them Sister!

Love,
Aubrie xx



Our Valiant and Vivacious KIKI,

You face challenges without
"fuss or mess"

Your laughter fills every
nook and cranny of our world

Your courage and tenacity inspire us

And you have taught us how to serve
in spite of self

Your path to graduation from
GWU has been via
The National Junior Honors Society
The National Honors Society
And the Phi Sigma Sigma
Sorority

You have been the proverbial
light on the bushel

And we know that wherever the
future takes you

You will shine, shine, shine---
Go Kiki; Go Girl !

Much Love,
Chidi (Big B), Ogechi (Baby Girl),
Mom (Mamero) & Dad (Dude)



Akunna Kenyatta Ibe



Dear Isa,

Time has passed so fast... with your effort and dedication you have reached another goal and we are sure that you will have the same success in the next phase of your life. Your intelligence, drive, sense of family and humor are your most prized possessions. We are so proud of you and feel blessed that you are our daughter. Always count on us.

Congratulations!!
With all our love,
Mom and Dad

Isabella Lauria



You will always be our
shining, Texas star!
We are so proud!
Love,
Mom & Dad

Stewart Pagan



Well done Tara Rae,
GW was the perfect place for
you to prove you will succeed
in life. We are beaming with
pride and joy for you. Keep
dreaming, stay true to YOU and
enjoy your accomplishments.
Watch out world - here she
comes!!
All our love,
Mom, Dad and Drew

Tara Rae Shannon



Christina Lewis

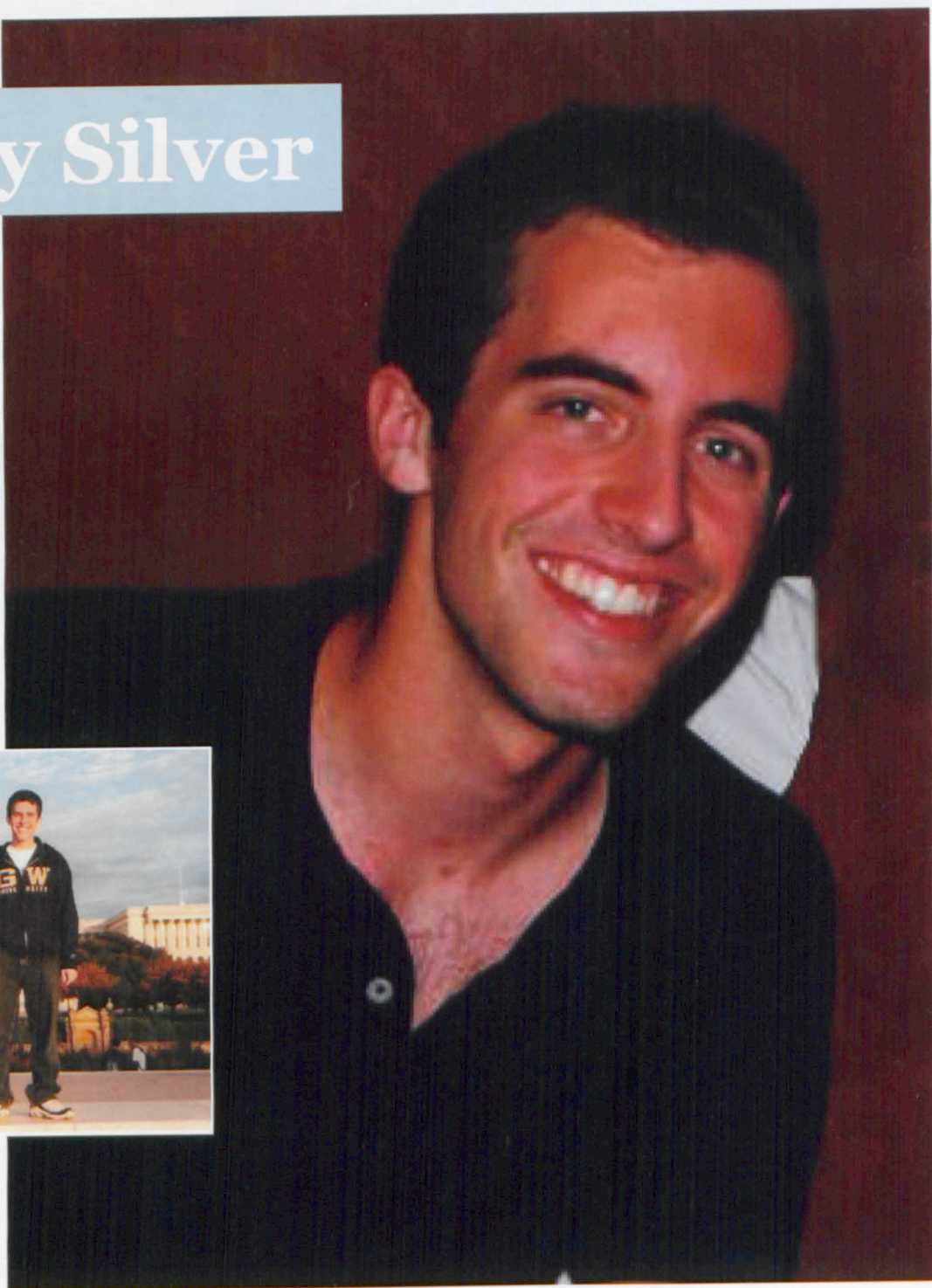
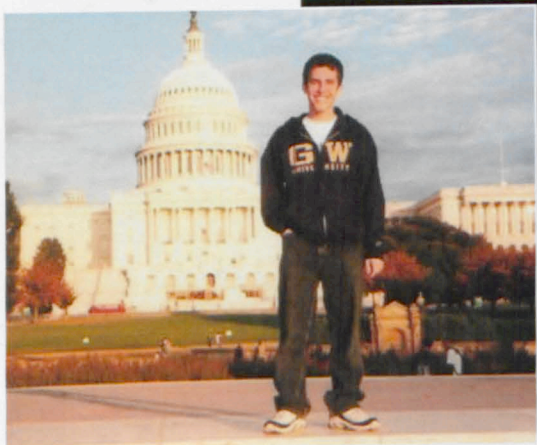
Christina,
Congratulations! We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. Good luck in Law School. We love you so much!
Love,
Mom, Daddy, Alexandra and Brian



Rory Silver

Dear Rory,

We are so proud of your many accomplishments at GW. We always knew you would succeed in what you set out to do. Your goals are high and we know you will fulfill them. May you always follow your dreams and may they always come true. We wish you success in life for whatever you set out for. We know you will make it to the top! Love always,
Mom, Dad and Craig



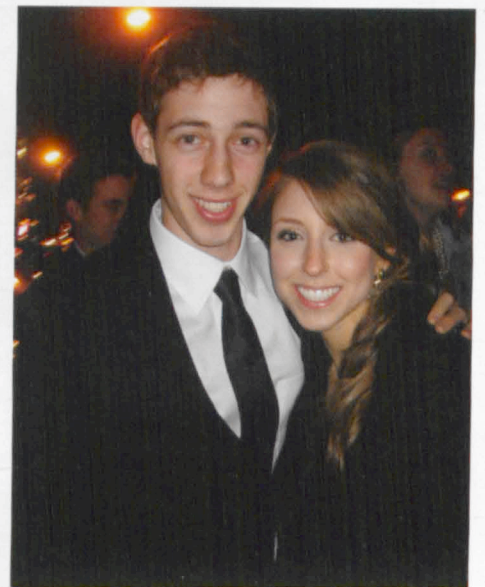
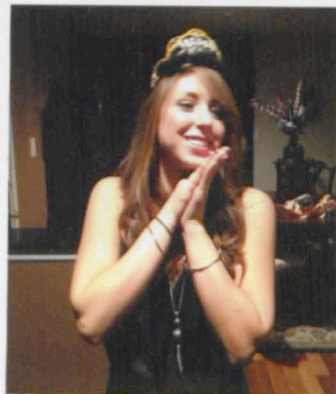


We are so proud of you and look forward to the bright future you have earned. We wish you continued success, good health and great happiness.

With love,
Mom, Dad and Matthew



Alison Bogdonoff



Congratulations David!
Love, Mom, Dad and Emily

اميل ياف



David Bresnahan-McRae

William Schreiber



"Lancaster bore him - such a little town,
Such a great man."
Love, Mom and Dad



Jeanette Kaiser

Congratulations Jeanette!

We are so proud of all you have accomplished,
so impressed by your achievements, both academic and individual,
so inspired by your goals and aspirations,
and so honored to call you our daughter, sister, and friend.

These last four years we have seen your continued growth as a caring, compassionate, independent, strong lively, intelligent, and interesting individual. This next chapter in your life will surely see you continue down the incredible and exciting path you are carving out for yourself.

We hope for nothing less than all your dreams coming true and all the happiness and success we know you truly deserve.

We know you will achieve anything you set your mind to, and like today, we will always be here to support and celebrate you achieving your goals.

LOVE, MOM, DAD, CHRISTINA, MATT, EDDIE, & RACHAEL

Meghan Kearns



"How sad my life would have been without my sisters."

Where did the years go? We can't believe you're graduating college already! It seems like just yesterday we were in the backyard on the swings. We loved growing up with you and it has been quite the adventure. You have always looked out for us, but are so much fun while doing it! God couldn't have given us a better sister. We love you so much and good luck out there! Love Catie, Emily, and Bridget



Dear Meghan,

You have brought us great joy and happiness all of your life! We are so proud of your accomplishments and the woman you have become.

You are blessed with uncommon gifts and the desire to develop them which will serve you well in law school and beyond.

Who you are makes us confident you will "navigate" through life's challenges.

Congratulations.

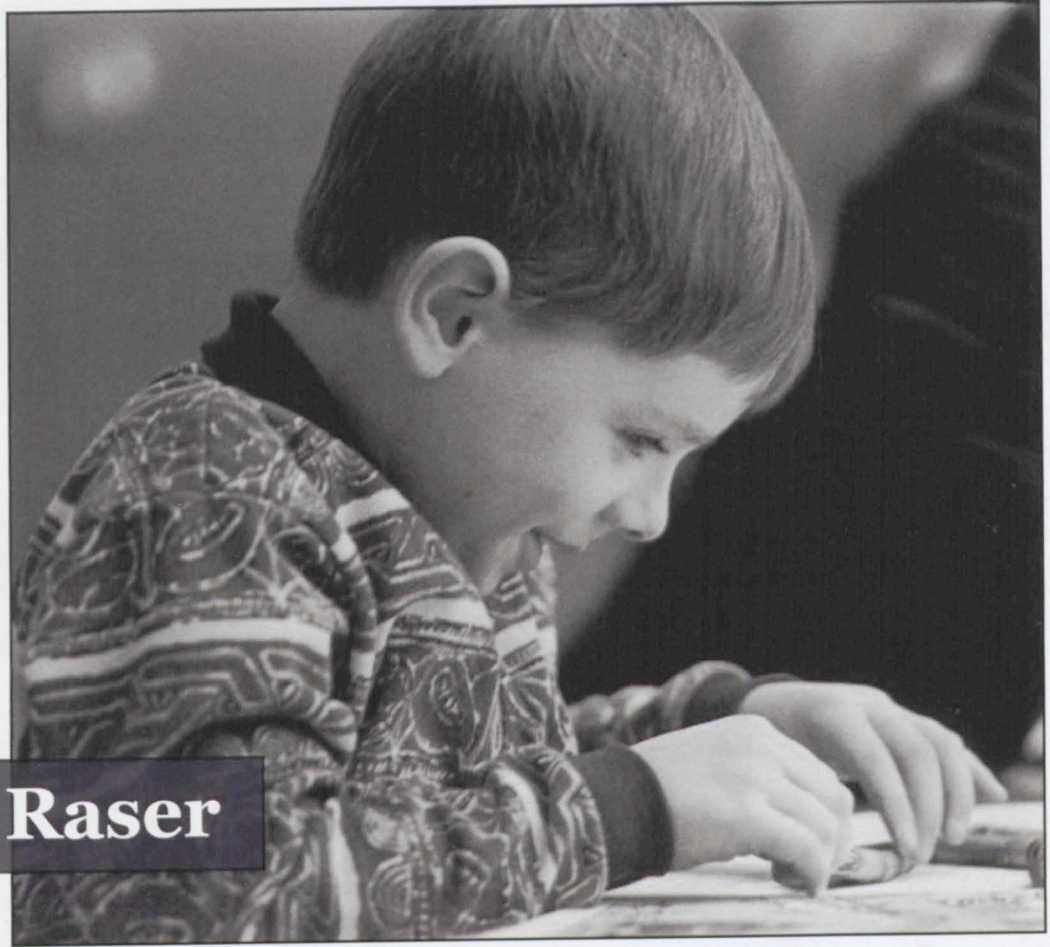
Love Always - Mom and Dad



Joseph,

From your earliest days all throughout your school years, you were always a man with a mission. Whether you realized it or not, your pursuit was to quietly absorb all the lessons in school and in everyday life and add these experiences to your arsenal of good character. Together your brilliant mind, compassionate heart, gentle soul, and moral conscience have made you into the amazing person you are today. Henry A. Kissinger once said, "Leaders must invoke an alchemy of great vision." May you continue to be the visionary you have always been, for all that you touch, your humanitarian fingerprints leave a positive imprint. Congratulations!

Love,
Mom and Dad
Emma and Abby



Joseph Raser



Shannon Sweeney

CHEER UP
IT'S ALMOST OVER!
LOVE, YOUR FAMILY

Bridget Harriss



Dear Bridget,
Congratulations on four
amazing and successful
years at George Washington
University.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Hugh and Ted,
Max, Sunny and Harry!

"I hope your dreams take
you to the corners of your
smiles, to the highest of
your hopes, to the windows
of your opportunities and
to the most special places
your heart has ever known."
—Author unknown



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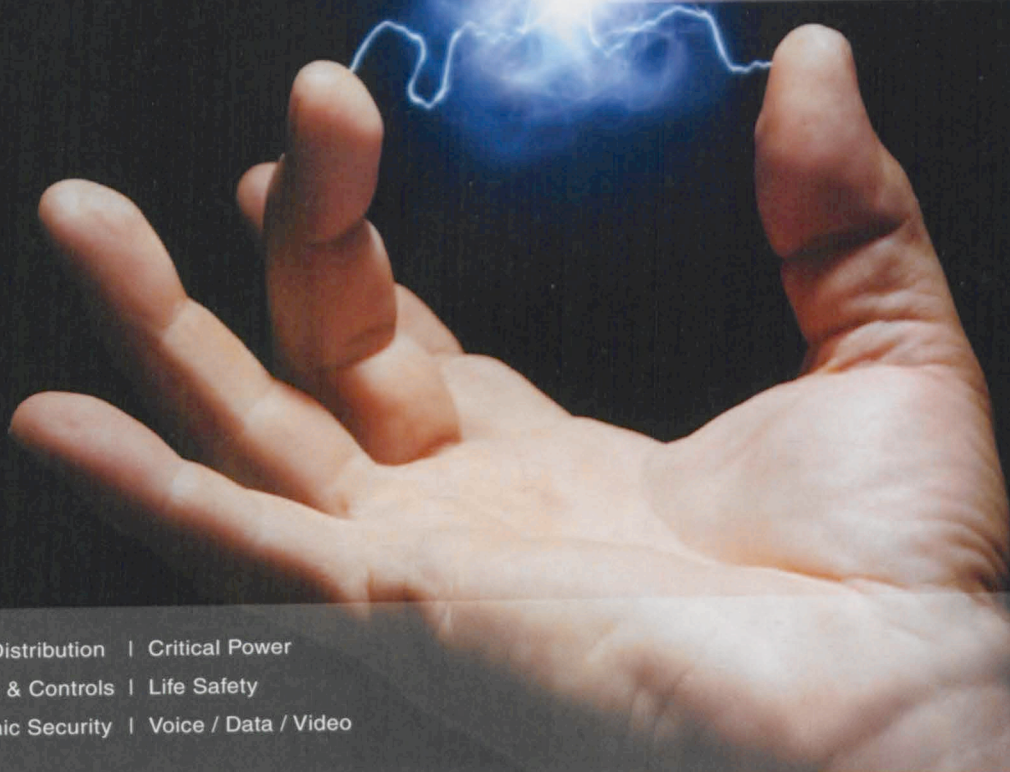
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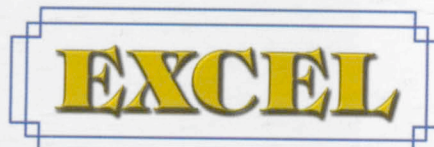
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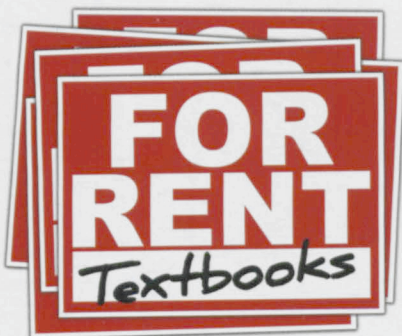


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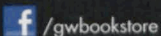
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-Diogenes



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After working on the yearbook during the entirety of my time at GW, I truly am grateful to have been given the opportunity to serve as Editor-in-Chief of the 2012 Cherry Tree. Each and every day I am amazed by the sheer number of dedicated, passionate and driven individuals who walk the grounds of GW. It is because of you that this school is such a wonderful place and I can only hope that this book showcases your outstanding character and commitment.

First and foremost, I have to thank my two incredible advisors, Deborah and Ariz. I learned so much from you both and can't even begin to tell you how much I appreciate your patience, guidance and genuine commitment to the Tree.

I consider myself incredibly lucky to have worked alongside this year's Cherry Tree staff. All of you are such amazing people and I hope you realize how much I value your friendship. Meredith, you have always been one of my closest friends throughout the years and I can't imagine producing this book without you. Matt, I admire your hard work and dedication and can't thank you enough for keeping the business side of this project in check. Natalie, after working together for three years I was so glad to have on staff for our senior year and was constantly impressed with your work ethic. Christina, I know I tricked you into joining, but I can't tell you how happy I am that you came aboard and hope you enjoyed your time on staff. Maggie, you are one of the kindest souls I have ever met and I hope you realize how talented you truly are – carry your passion for photography with you for the rest of your life. Charlotte, I am so grateful for your kindness, dedication and creativity. It is because of your tireless efforts that this book came to life.

As for those who aren't graduating – Jessica, Kevin, Olivia, Rachael, Laney, and Marie – I congratulate all of you on a job well done and look forward to seeing next year's book!



I am so thankful to have been a part of the Cherry Tree for the past two years. It has been a great learning experience, and our especially awesome and funny staff this year made it that much more fun.

Thank you to Joseph for believing in me to be his right-hand man even though we have "nothing else in common." Thank you to Jessica, Kevin, and Christina for writing awesome copy and bringing new ideas to the book. Thank you, Natalie, for getting me involved with the Cherry Tree and sharing your love of journalism. Thank you, Laney, Marie, and Charlotte, for your hours of dedication to perfect each spread. Matt, thank you for your smooth business skills and even smoother 'parent skills.' Thank you Olivia and Maggie for your incredible flexibility and amazing photography. Thank you Ariz and Deborah for a great year of advising.

Best of luck to the new staff and Jessica! I can't wait to watch the Cherry Tree grow!



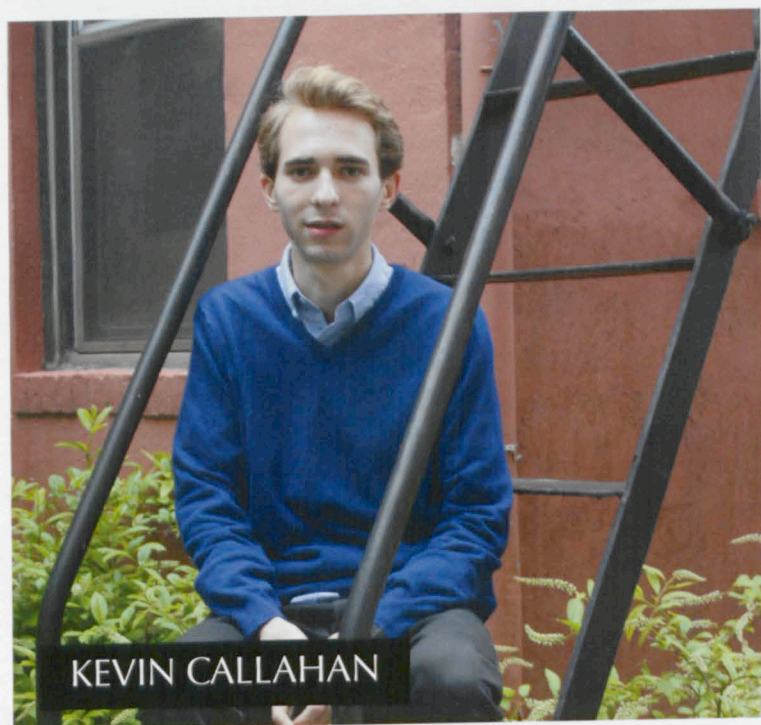


JESSICA CHACE

2012 was a rewarding yet challenging year for me, but being a part of the Cherry Tree made it a lot easier. This year's staff was made up of an extremely warm and welcoming group of people, and I was proud to be a part of it.

Thank you to Joe and Meredith for supporting us all throughout the year. You were truly the best team I've worked with in the three years I've been on staff. Thank you as well to the entire staff—Maggie, Olivia, Charlotte, Matt, Rachael, Kevin, Natalie and Christina. I really enjoyed working with and getting to know you all. And special thanks to Hyacinth Mascarenhas for helping me write the copy when I was too swamped with work.

Finally, thank you to all the student organizations that put up with my incessant emails. I'm always so impressed by your hard work and passion. Best of luck to all the 2012 graduates, and I look forward to working on next year's book!



KEVIN CALLAHAN

When I think about my first year with the GW Cherry Tree I am struck by how quickly it passed by, but in that time I had many incredible experiences that. If I had to mention one thing that I learned about GW, it is that I realized just how active everyone at this university is. As the Features Editor, nearly every one of my deadlines included the coverage of a major university event, drawing together the diverse GW community. It's this social and academic ambition combined with the strong foundation of GW's community that I think makes this university so special. I feel so fortunate to have gained this knowledge first hand and I would like to thank Joe and Meredith for allowing me to take advantage of this opportunity. I would also like to thank every one of my fellow section editors including Jessica, Natalie, and Christina for being so welcoming and providing me with guidance. My stories would not have the life they do without Charlotte's excellent designs and Olivia and Maggie's striking photography. Thanks Rachael for your ceaseless patience in editing my copy, even when I was running late. And finally, thank you Matt for raising the money needed to fund the publication of our yearbook, and without which we'd all be out of a job. Thanks again everyone!



CHRISTINA WALD

My time at the Cherry Tree has been a whirlwind and I could not have done it without the support of the staff. To my fellow Cherry Tree-ers, the memories we shared over the past year will stay with me for a lifetime. Charlotte, I will always cherish the weekly meetings we made it to and I am so amazed by your creativity to make the yearbook look great this year. Meredith, I will not miss your serious stare whenever I missed a deadline, but I will miss your wit during the meetings! Thank you for your patience and helping me tweak my spreads. Olivia and Maggie, the coolest photographers, thank you for taking the best action shots and attending so many sporting events. To the rest of the staff, Natalie, Kevin, Jessica, Matt and Rachael, thank you for making the meetings always a unique time in my weekly routine. And finally to Joe, thank you for lying to me in Paris about what my potential yearbook job would entail, without you, I would never have had such a great experience with the Cherry Tree.

As my third year as the Greek Life editor for The Cherry Tree the staff has started to feel like a little family. With past members combined with fresh faces I'm excited to see the outcome of the yearbook! I would like to thank all of the Greek presidents for putting up with my perpetual e-mails. A special thank-you to Joe and Mere for your patience, and an extra special thank-you to Deborah and Ariz for your guidance and all the delicious dinners. It's too bad yearbooks don't cover your life past college!



NATALIE KORNICKS

I've had such a fabulous year getting to know the entire Cherry Tree staff and learning all about everything GW. Kevin, Jessica, Natalie and Charlotte- thanks for making my job so easy! Joe, Meredith, Deborah and Ariz- thank you for your constant support and dedication to the yearbook. Maggie, Olivia, Charlotte and Matt- I've really enjoying getting to know you throughout the past year. Special thanks to Natalie for sending out that fateful email over the ADPi listserv that first got me involved in the yearbook! Congrats to the class of 2012, and I look forward to working on the 2013 yearbook!



RACHAEL ABRAM

Thank you to everyone on staff for a great year, especially Laney & Marie...I can't wait to see what you two have planned for next year :)



CHARLOTTE DOYLE



OLIVIA KESTIN

To everyone on the Cherry Tree Staff this year, thank you so much for making this experience so fun and special, I had a really great time being a part of this staff. Meredith...Thank you for (eventually) accepting you had a random roommate Junior year, and then becoming a good friend...and recommending me to Joseph as photo editor. Joseph, thank you for letting me join this staff and putting up with my unique sense of humor in the meetings. Maggie, I couldn't have asked for a better co-editor to work with and get to know while sitting in the office for hours. You still owe me macaroons... Sofi, thank you for your help over the year, we really appreciated having you to help us handle all the shoots! Again thank you EVERYONE! It was such a fun year on staff and Congratulations to the seniors on graduation!



MAGGIE MCCONNELL

Working on the yearbook for the first time my senior year was a wonderful experience. As a photography editor I was able to explore GW in a new way, through the lens of my camera. Having the opportunity to go to events as well as meet with members of the community for photo shoots truly broadened my time at GW. Having Olivia as my co-photo editor has been one of the highlights of my job. Thank you for a great year, excellent work and always a good laugh; I wouldn't have been able to do my job without you. I would also like to thank all of the staff that contributed to the photos, particularly Sofi, who was a huge help in covering events for us. Finally I would like to thank the entire executive board of the Cherry Tree, it was an honor to have the opportunity to work with all of you this year.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Joe and Meredith for all of their help this year. I really couldn't have done it without you. Laney and Marie, you did a really great job designing our accolades.

I also wanted to thank all of the parents of the graduate for their tremendous support and patience for this years Cherry Tree.

Good luck to the class of 2012!



MATT MARSHALL



DEBORAH VALDEZ SNELGROVE



ARIZ MATUTE















Colophon

Editor-in-Chief: Joseph Raser
Advisor: Deborah Valdez Snelgrove

The Cherry Tree, Volume 104, was produced by the yearbook staff at The George Washington University in Washington, DC. It was printed by Balfour Publishing in Dallas, TX. The account was serviced by Account Executive Milani Arguelles. Professional portraits for the senior section were provided by Thornton Studios in New York, NY.

Volume 104 is 400 pages and total press run was 1,950. The entire class of 2012 received a yearbook courtesy of the University with a grant from the Alumni Association. The 400 pages of content were printed on 100lb high gloss enamel paper stock. The paper is made from a neutral pH and is PEFC, ISO and FSC certified, allowing sustainable and environmentally friendly archival qualities. The two end sheets of this book are printed Rainbow Gray Stock environmentally responsible paper. The cover is a 4/color litho with satin scuff free matte lamination and copper foil decoration.

The majority of photography in this book is a product of the hard work of photography editors Margaret McConnell and Oliva Kestin. Photos in the Sports section can be attributed to GW Athletics Communications. Photography was edited using Adobe Photoshop CS4. The photo equipment was Canon 5D, Canon 40D, and Nikon D200.

The design and creative vision in this book is a product of the efforts of Senior Design Editor Charlotte Doyle and designers Laney Fazio and Marie Fazio. All pages were designed using Adobe CS4. Artwork was made in Adobe Photoshop CS4 and Adobe Illustrator CS4. The dominant fonts are Optima and Georgia.

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